

## **MAT CARRIES OUT EXTENSIVE THEATRE REFURBISHMENT AT BEDFORD HOSPITAL**

Medical Air Technology (MAT) recently completed the refurbishment of a pre-existing operating theatre complex at Bedford Hospital, upgrading both theatres 3 and 4 with the addition of ECO-flow™ Dynamic ultraclean ventilation (UCV) systems. The new ultraclean theatres will allow the hospital to increase its orthopaedic output and expand the range of surgeries it is able to offer its patients. MAT was appointed directly by the hospital, winning the contract in a competitive tender with a submission that showed it offered not only the best equipment package and shortest delivery period, but also the best overall understanding of the project.

The work carried out by MAT was a total design-and-build turnkey refurbishment, necessitating a complete reconfiguration of the layout in both theatres and new HVAC systems. The extensive refit included ECO-flow™ 2800 UCV canopies, operating lights, pendants, theatre control panels, furniture, floors, lighting, sanitaryware, IPS and UPS, chillers, air handling units (AHUs), ductwork, pipework and HVAC controls within each theatre. MAT designed, manufactured and installed major roof-mounted steelwork and maintenance access walkways for the two new AHUs and a new chiller to support the existing chiller, which supplies cooling to the whole building.

Nearly 11,000 operations were carried out at Bedford Hospital in 2017, and to sustain this level it was important that essential theatre capacity was not affected while the refurbishment of the complex was underway. To achieve this, before work began on theatres 3 and 4 the hospital commissioned a new modular theatre, replicating the equipment within the main complex to ensure continuity and familiarity for staff and clinical team members. While it was being built, MAT undertook the roof plant installation. This necessitated close liaison between MAT, the hospital estates department and the supplier of the modular theatre. When the modular theatre came online, theatre 3 was closed to allow the refurbishment to begin. The seamless and efficient programme ensured any disruption was kept to an absolute minimum and theatre lists were unaffected.

“Finding a solution to improving our theatres has posed a significant challenge and a lot of thought, planning and hard work has gone into finding a solution so that we can better meet the 18-week referral to treatment (RTT) pathway, providing quick and effective care to our patients.

“Refurbishing our current theatre complex will allow us to make sure our current operating rooms are fit for the future, ensuring we can provide a safer, more efficient service for our patients, and a better environment for our staff to work in.”

Stephen Conroy: Chief Executive, Bedford Hospital NHS Trust

MAT offers a wide range of services so is able to respond flexibly and quickly to the specific needs of each client, providing all the benefits that come from working with a specialist contractor. With its own in-house UK manufacturing facility and dedicated team of highly skilled engineers, MAT manufactures and supplies bespoke equipment for demanding clinical arenas. Clients can choose from several options, ranging from UCV canopy only right through to a total turnkey package, ensuring they get exactly the solution they need. In addition, MAT FM can provide a range of competitively priced and highly effective service and maintenance packages for all core products and turnkey solutions offered by MAT or other suppliers, ensuring that equipment is maintained, serviced and validated correctly for optimum performance.

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