

25 January, 2005

## **Steam trapping stations cut maintenance at Royal United Hospital in Bath**

Spirax Sarco Quickfit steam trapping stations are set to save maintenance time on recently revamped steam facilities at the Royal United Hospital in Bath. Steam traps fitted to the 13 Spirax Sarco STS17 stations can be changed by loosening just two bolts, cutting the time traditionally taken to remove and replace a steam trap to just a few minutes.

Mr Pete Easy, Maintenance Engineer at the hospital says: "The new stations will save about three-quarters of an hour when changing each steam trap. This minimises downtime and maintenance costs when a steam trap is replaced."

As well as delivering maintenance savings, the STS17 units also helped save time as the steam system was designed and built. The trapping stations include all the valves and other ancillary equipment normally associated with each steam trap, which simplifies the design because these would otherwise have to be specified separately.

Fitters on site also save time installing STS17s, because they only need to connect the units' inlet and outlet pipes. The simplicity of installation enables contractors to use less specialised personnel. Commissioning is also quick and easy, with the assemblies being factory-tested by Spirax Sarco before delivery.

The steam trapping stations are part of a wider upgrade of the hospital's sterile services department, which is responsible for washing and sterilising surgical instruments. It's an area that can't afford to be out of action for long, since it must maintain a supply of fresh equipment for use by medical staff.

