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Spirax Sarco Engineered Systems cut heating bills at Stafford General Hospital

Replacing five shell and tube calorifiers with Spirax Sarco EasiHeat™ Engineered Systems has saved more than £3,000 per year in energy, has improved the supply of hot water to the main kitchen and has reduced maintenance at Stafford General Hospital. Further savings are expected as more calorifiers are replaced in the future.

The hospital has four plant rooms, each originally equipped with four calorifiers, two for space heating and two for domestic hot water (DHW). "These calorifiers are 20 years old," says the hospital's Technical Services Engineer Mr Chris Holt. "The heating load has increased as the hospital has expanded and the calorifiers struggled to keep up with demand."

The calorifiers consumed considerable maintenance resources too, needing to be stripped down for insurance inspection every 14 months, which took around 10 hours per unit. "Problems with corrosion were also ongoing, requiring costly replacement tubes," says Mr Holt.

Each plantroom now has one EasiHeat for space heating. "Because the heat output is significantly more than the calorifier it replaced, we can rely on the EasiHeats alone to provide the heating load throughout the year," says Mr Holt.

Spirax Sarco also replaced a DHW calorifier. “This particular plant room serves the main kitchen and previously, the staff ran out of hot water at peak times. This is no longer a problem.” says Mr Holt. “Our goal is to install an EasiHeat unit for DHW in each plant room.”

The hospital considered several options before deciding to replace the calorifiers with Spirax Sarco EasiHeat Engineered Systems. “The EasiHeat units were very cost-effective compared to other companies’ offers,” says Mr Holt.

He also says that the hospital’s previous experience of service and support from local Spirax Sarco sales engineers was important: “Spirax Sarco provides a service, it’s not just about selling equipment. They help you make your calculations and size things correctly.”

Rated up to 1,200 kW, EasiHeat systems use plate heat exchangers to provide heating and hot water on demand. The compact, skid-mounted systems are straightforward to fit in existing plant rooms.

