

# PROJECT PORTFOLIO

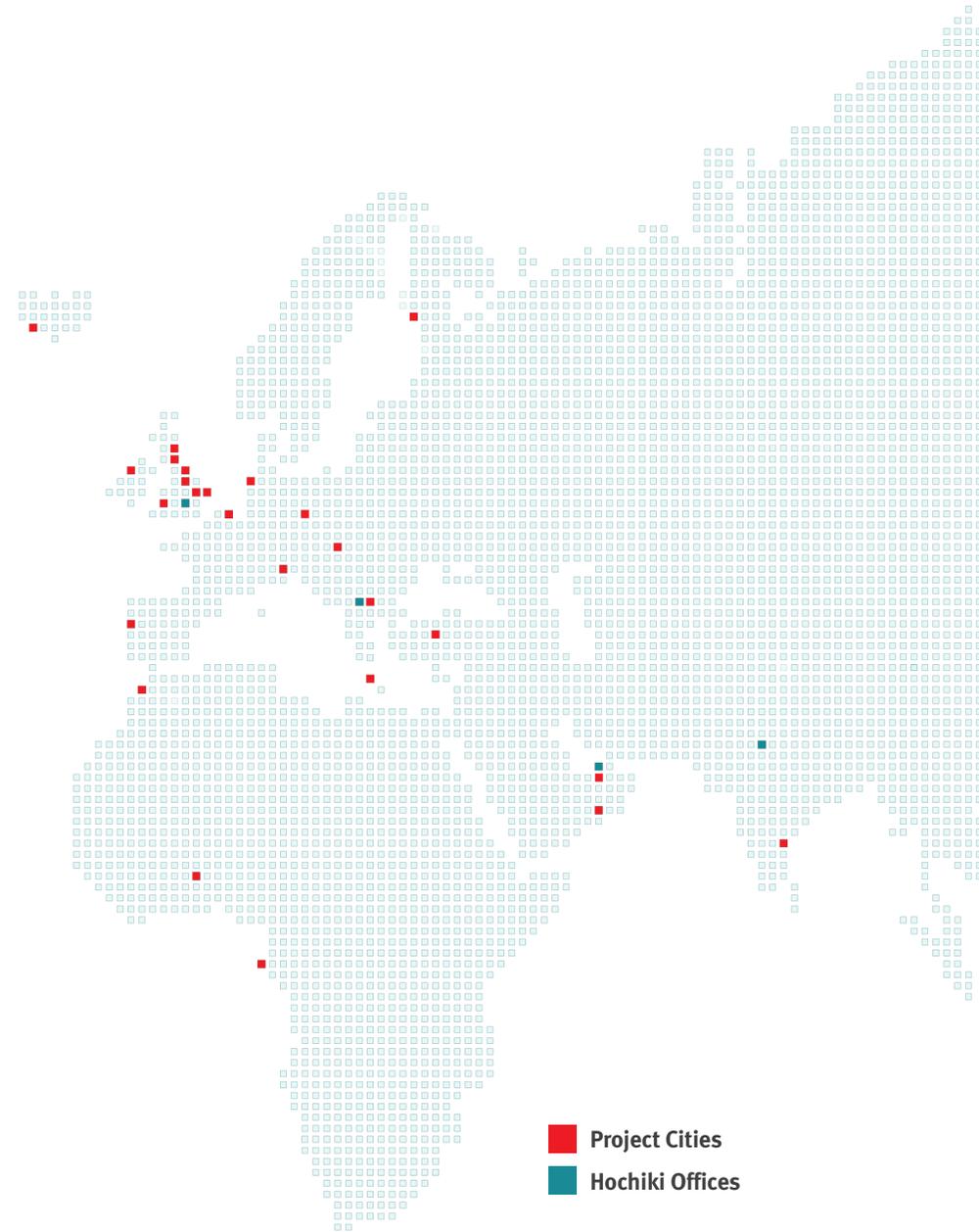
# INTRODUCTION



## World Class Leaders in Fire Detection Since 1918

Hochiki has a distinguished heritage of specialist technological expertise which has gained the group its international status as one of the world's leading manufacturers of commercial and industrial fire detection and emergency lighting solutions. Throughout its history, the Hochiki brand has become synonymous with high quality and high reliability, and as such, Hochiki devices have been installed in many prestigious projects throughout the world.

This portfolio contains a selection of installations that have been carried out using Hochiki products in Europe, Middle East, Africa and India.



■ Project Cities  
■ Hochiki Offices

# CONTENTS BY SECTOR

## EDUCATION

English Martyrs School & Sixth Form College	4 – 5
The Open Academy	6 – 7
Teesside University	8 – 9
West Dean College	10 – 11
The Flag	12 – 13

## RETAIL

Broadway Shopping Centre	14 – 15
Markovo Tepe Mall	16 – 17
Teatro Italia	18 – 19

## COMMERCIAL

Vicentini Auto	20 – 21
Estée Lauder	22 – 23
World Wildlife Fund	24 – 25
HTM Hybrid Tower	26 – 27
Vista Star Residential and Commercial Building	28 – 29

## HOTEL & LEISURE

Cardiff City FC	30 – 31
Harpa Reykjavík Concert Hall and Conference Centre	32 – 33
Titanic Hotel	34 – 35
Savoy Theatre	36 – 37
The International Bomber Command Centre	38 – 39

## MARINE

Perenco Hotel Barge	40 – 41
Castor Dorcht Navy Ship	42 – 43

## HEALTHCARE

Sligo Regional Hospital	44 – 45
Sacro Cuore Don Calabria Hospital	46
Norfolk and Norwich Hospital	47
Filton Blood Centre	48 – 49
The Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics	50 – 51

## TRANSPORT

Ashford International	52 – 53
Waverley Station	54 – 55
St Pancras International	56 – 58

## GOVERNMENT

Helsinki Courthouse	59
The Court of Appeal in Casablanca	60
Royal Oman Police Station in Marmul	61

## INDUSTRIAL

Honey Monster Foods	62 – 63
Michelin Factory	64 – 65
Porcelainas	66 – 67
Yamaha Motorcycle Factory	68 – 69
Formula Techniki	70 – 71

## CARE HOMES

Roseville Care Home	72 – 73
Hatchmoor Nursing Home	74

## HERITAGE

National Trust at Blickling Hall and Felbrigg Hall	75
Lincoln Castle	76 – 77
Peterborough Cathedral	78 – 79
Sofia National Library	80 - 81



## SCHOOL TOP OF THE FIRE SAFETY CLASS THANKS TO HOCHIKI EUROPE

English Martyrs School and Sixth Form College in Hartlepool, County Durham, is benefiting from a streamlined low maintenance and an innovative high-performance fire alarm system, provided by Hochiki Europe. The school is one of the largest in Hartlepool, with a population of 1,637 students aged 11 to 18. Founded in 1973, it comprises a number of outbuildings of varying sizes, designs and ages, all clustered around the original structure.

With such a complex site layout, the ageing closed protocol fire safety system was becoming increasingly expensive for the school to maintain, as it needed replacement components that could only be sourced from a single supplier. The school demanded an innovative solution to safeguard the well-being of students while streamlining maintenance. All this had

to be achieved within a tight time-frame of five weeks during the school holidays to minimise disruption to classes – a target that even its maintenance team didn't think was feasible.

“ With so many people using the buildings every day, we were finding it more and more of a challenge to keep the fire safety technology in top condition without disrupting classes, explained Mick Dempsey, Building Manager at English Martyrs School. So it became crucial to find a solution with minimal aftercare requirements. ”

Having a well-established working relationship with Hochiki Europe, David Hynes, project manager at the contractors leading the installation, Tees Fire Systems Ltd. (TFS), felt that the manufacturer had the right life safety solutions for the project. The school was particularly keen to investigate solutions to reduce false alarms, caused by the frequent use of ovens, Bunsen burners and kilns in the home economics, science and craft classrooms.

To help meet these objectives, it was decided that the school would benefit from the use of ACC-EN multi-sensors from Hochiki Europe. Installed in the rooms most at risk from alerts caused by class work, these detectors could be programmed to detect just heat by day and heat and smoke by night, ensuring optimum safety for students, while eliminating the issue of false alarms.



ACC-EN

Reflective Beam Smoke Detectors (FB-1) were installed in the ornate main halls and sports hall, due to the breadth of coverage they offered. With their advanced motorised technology, they are able to self-align to their opposing reflectors when necessary, reducing the need for intervention from maintenance teams. The beam detectors were installed directly onto the loop using Hochiki Europe's Powered Output Module (CHQ-POM) with just one point of cable termination. As a result, significantly less cabling was required compared with standard solutions which require further cabling to connect the fire and fault contacts to the rest of the safety system. Not only did this reduce the impact cable work on the aesthetics of the building interior, it also streamlined the installation for TFS.

All of the technologies installed in the school feature the manufacturer's innovative open Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP), making them compatible with standard components from other suppliers, and cutting the cost of aftercare. The system has also been designed to automatically transmit fault or fire alerts to mobile phones, enabling the maintenance team to locate the source of any problem and rectify it before the alarm sounds, reducing aftercare time and further cutting the impact of false alarms.

David at TFS explained:

“With so little wiring required, the cables were barely visible from the ground. This meant we were able to install the detectors on the ceilings of the hall and sports hall without having to hide it with casings, which significantly reduced the duration of the project.

Moreover, choosing a multi-looped system meant that we could fit the new equipment in different areas of the school in phases, which further cut installation time and allowed portions of the site to be used throughout the project, such as classrooms for summer school and the hall for exam results days.

As a result, we were able to complete the entire installation throughout the school in just five weeks, not just meeting the customer's ambitious deadline, but exceeding its expectations.

Richard Wharram, Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, added:

“English Martyrs School is a vast and busy site, with hundreds of students and visitors passing through the building every day. As such, it was crucial that its fire safety systems were not only reliable, but also as easy to maintain as possible, to keep disruption to the school day to a minimum.

“The solutions we recommended offered the performance required with lower aftercare needs and a reduction in false alarms, saving the maintenance team time and money, while allowing students and staff to go about their day as safely as possible.

Commenting on the project, Tony Cooney, Technical Sales Director of TFS, said:

“The team's organisation skills and hard work on this project were outstanding. We're proud to have been selected by Hochiki Europe as the only Hochiki Systems Partner in the North East of England.

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## ECO-FRIENDLY OPEN ACADEMY GETS FLEXIBLE FIRE DETECTION LESSON

In September 2010, The Open Academy in Norwich moved into a new landmark building designed to be a vibrant, attractive and stimulating learning environment. Hochiki Europe's innovative fire detection products have been specified throughout the building, making the most of their unique features and advanced technology.

### Out with the old

Formerly known as Heartsease High School, the current school structure was built in the 1960s and is a far cry from the modern, eye catching design of the new building. Sheppard Robson won a competition to design the new £20m, 9,000m<sup>2</sup> Open Academy building, which is the first of its kind in Norfolk. Norfolk County Council is responsible for overseeing the design and build of the Academy, and chose Kier Education as the preferred building developer and Kier Eastern as

the building contractor. The design draws upon the aeronautical history of the site as well as the engineering and environmental specialist status of the Academy, by conceiving the building as a series of mechanical components. The building's timber frame will save 3,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide, compared to traditional concrete or steel structures, and for every three trees used in the building, four will be planted. The curved plan of the main building was considered as a series of concentric bands. The outer perimeter houses the main teaching and learning accommodation to maximise the potential for natural daylight, views and ventilation; while the inner band provides the main circulation route, stacked as a series of open balconies that wrap around the central Open Forum.

### Tender

Norfolk based fire detection installation specialist, T&P Fire, was invited to tender for, and was subsequently awarded, the contract to install the Open Academy's fire detection system by the project's M&E contractor, Dodd Group. The tender required the installation of a BS5389 compliant category L1 addressable fire detection system. An L1 system is designed for the protection of life and deploys automatic detectors throughout all areas of the building – including roof spaces and voids – with the aim of providing the earliest possible warning.

Eddie Bean is T&P Fire's Technical Manager and comments:

“ Once we had planned and designed the installation we had no hesitation in suggesting the use of Hochiki's products in the Open Academy, due to their extensive range, proven reliability and excellent support service. We knew that Hochiki would act as a one-stop-shop for all of our fire detection product requirements. ”

Using open protocol products was a key consideration for T&P Fire. Eddie says:

“ We prefer to install open protocol systems and for the Academy it offers the advantage of being able to choose who it wants to work with in the future based on the service offered, rather than what it already has installed. As a company, T&P Fire has always felt that open protocol is the best option for our customers. ”

### Many and varied

In total, the Open Academy is now home to 483 separate Hochiki devices and the addressable system uses an eight loop control panel at its centre.

A wide range of other Hochiki equipment was required, including photoelectric smoke sensors which reduce the likelihood of false alarms, multi-sensors in the science and food technology laboratories, analogue base sounders, multi-heat sensors, loop powered sounders and call points.

The tender also specified that the fire alarm sounders should incorporate a class change sound. Hochiki Europe's system is unique in that it has a programmable option which facilitates this and allows the use of a different audible tone from that of the fire alarm.

Eddie says:

“ The class change tone facility is a great example of how Hochiki has put a useful and relevant feature into its product. It is this type of flexible thinking that makes Hochiki such a popular choice amongst fire detection system installers and their customers. ”

### Installation

The design for the Academy includes the implementation of a cross laminated timber system as its structural core, reducing the building's carbon footprint. The timber comes from managed forests, creates minimal waste and is fabricated to high tolerances.

This unique structure meant that T&P Fire had to approach the installation of the fire detection system in accordance with specific guidelines.

Eddie comments:

“ The Open Academy is oval shaped with a central area. Sheppard Robson made it clear that cables should not run across this area but should emanate from the centre and spread outwards. The cable has to follow the route of the sprinkler pipes in order to keep it neat and unobtrusive. While this did mean the use of more cable it makes the installation aesthetically pleasing. ”

The building contains many voids and false ceilings, which allow much of the wiring infrastructure to be hidden, but also requires a greater number of detectors to be installed above them in order to comply with BS5389.

### Start of Term

As a former pupil of Heartsease High School, Eddie is particularly pleased to have played a role in the construction. He summarises:

“ It has been a fantastic project to work on and I'm very pleased to have been able to install a state-of-the-art fire detection system in such a building. I'm sure that Hochiki's products will serve the Academy well for many years to come. ”

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE'S EMERGENCY LIGHTING SYSTEM TAKES THE UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

Located in Middlesbrough on the south bank of the River Tees, Teesside University has become one of the UK's foremost seats of learning. It achieves consistently high rankings in surveys that assess the quality of education on offer, and in 2009 it was named as the Times Higher Education (THE) Awards University of the Year.

### History lesson

The formation of a technical college to support Middlesbrough's engineering, bridge and shipbuilding industries was first discussed in 1914 but World War One and the need to raise enough money for the work delayed developments until local shipping magnate, Joseph Constantine, offered a contribution of £80,000. Work on the campus finally started in 1927 and Constantine College, as it was named, was officially opened by the future King Edward VIII on 2nd July 1930.

The College then became Teesside Polytechnic in 1969, and in 1992 the Privy Council gave approval to 14 higher education institutions, including Teesside, to become new universities. Currently home to over 28,000 students, Teesside University has become renowned for the quality of its facilities and it has made a £120m investment to provide a top-class learning environment. Recent developments include The Athena – a 4,000m<sup>2</sup> of studio space for computing, design and media students – and The Phoenix, which is home to the Institute of Digital Innovation.

### Sky high

Middlesbrough Tower is the University campus's most imposing structure. 11 stories high, it houses the main reception area and administrative facilities, as well as teaching areas including newly equipped labs to support forensic and analytical sciences, environmental sciences and food technology.

One of the oldest buildings on the site is currently undergoing a phased refurbishment, the first phase of which has now been completed. The building's previous emergency lighting system had been in place since the late 1960s and for the University's Electrical Services Manager, David Newton, it was time to upgrade this important part of Middlesbrough Tower's life safety infrastructure.

David says:

“*The central battery system which had been installed in the basement area had become expensive to run and maintain, and it took up quite a lot of space because it was backed up with a series of uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs). Also, the 80W luminaires that the old system used needed to be changed frequently and this took a lot of time as well as being costly. Therefore, in line with the University’s energy reduction targets, I wanted to install a system that would reduce overheads, whilst utilising the latest technology.*”

#### A perfect fit

David was introduced to Hochiki Europe’s new emergency lighting solution by its installation partner, TCS Fire Safety Services Ltd, based in Middlesbrough, and he quickly realised that it would meet all of his selection criteria.

Manufactured in the UK, it is an EN50172 compliant intelligent low voltage system which utilises light emitting diode (LED) technology. It comprises an addressable emergency lighting control panel with battery back-up, and features addressable, self-contained LED luminaires and signage connected via low voltage (40V) cabling. The luminaires are also equipped with battery back-up, making sure they will function in every situation, while the units fit directly onto a standard Hochiki sensor base (YBN-R/3), making installation simple.

Mark Smith, Hochiki Europe’s UK Sales Manager, takes up the story and comments:

“*When I visited David, as well as talking to him about the features and benefits of the system, I was also able to give him an accurate idea of the cost savings he could expect to make by installing this unique emergency lighting solution.*”

Hochiki recently carried out a comparison of its emergency lighting system with a traditional manual test system and identified all the costs associated with each offering on a 1,000 luminaire system used over a 10 year period.

Mark adds:

“*It factored in maintenance labour, battery replacement, testing labour, recycling costs, energy use and initial capital outlay. We found that over this period of time using our emergency lighting system the end user could, extremely importantly in the current climate, save a massive amount of money and, just as essentially, make a significant CO<sub>2</sub> reduction.*”

#### Lighting the way

120 LED luminaires were installed during phase one and these were linked to an addressable controller using existing cabling. With maintenance being a major problem with the old system, Teesside University’s on-site team is now able to comply with EN50172 legislation and maintain the new system without having to call in specialist installers.

David explains:

“*In contrast to other systems, this system is programmable and its control panel continuously monitors and tests the functionality of the system. If there is ever a problem I can be notified straight away. It can also be pre-programmed to carry out specific monthly, six monthly and annual tests and we can then download the results from the control panel and print out the servicing and test schedules. This makes the system fully compliant with the requirements of BS5266-1:2005, while reducing our overheads considerably.*”

The system’s long life LED technology also means that it requires less than five per cent of the lamp changes compared with traditional fluorescent lighting. If a luminaire does need replacing, in house personnel can carry out the operation as it operates via low voltage (40V) cabling and is a simple “plug-in” device, reducing costs even further.

#### Looking ahead

This is one of the first installations of Hochiki’s new emergency lighting offering and David is extremely impressed with it. He concludes:

“*Because Hochiki has so much experience in fire detection system design and manufacture, their emergency lighting solution has been designed along similar lines, which makes it incredibly functional. I didn’t feel like I was taking any risk being one of the first to install it as it is really well thought out and I’m looking forward to installing the system in the remaining phases of the project.*”

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## KEEPING STUDENTS AND LECTURERS SAFE

Leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki Europe, has helped keep college students and their lecturers' safe with the installation of a new fire alarm system.

West Dean College, West Sussex, is internationally renowned for creative arts and conservation education, attracting students to 700+ short courses, and specialist degree and diploma programmes. The two kilometre estate is comprised of seven different educational, residential and leisure buildings, some of which date back to the 19th century.

The college invited Southern Fire Alarms (SFA) to design and install a new fire alarm system compliant with British Standards. A key concern for any college is false alarms; they not only disrupt lessons, but can also cause unnecessary panic, increasing the risk of possible injuries and accidents. As such, SFA had to ensure it selected the most reliable and robust solution on the market.

As a result, SFA specified approximately 200 Hochiki Europe detectors including Photoelectric Smoke Sensors, designed with High Performance Chamber Technology, across the seven buildings. In addition, 41 manual call points with short circuit isolators were installed; allowing the system to retain its integrity and operate as required, even if loop cables became compromised.

The size of the site also called for an increased number of base sounders, with a total of 64 being used to offer optimum sound coverage.

Oliver Reynolds, Director at Southern Fire Alarms, said:

“ Hochiki Europe detection paired with the Advanced Electronics MXPro5 panels were our first choice of products for this project. The combination of the two provides unrivalled system performance, configurability and above all reliability. The client had very specific needs when it came to cause and effect – both locally within each building but also in terms of network alarm information transfer and cause and effect – which were easily fulfilled. ”



ACC-EN

Each of the products specified for the new system feature Hochiki Europe's Enhanced System Protocol (ESP). Selecting an open protocol like Hochiki's ESP, affords the installer the freedom to select a combination of devices and panels that will best suit the project, and can reduce ongoing maintenance costs for the building owner. In this instance, SFA selected an Advanced Electronics Panel which seamlessly communicates with Hochiki Europe devices.

Ian Graham, Director of Property and Campus Operations at West Dean College, commented:

*“The safety of our students and staff is of paramount importance, and this is only possible with the installation of an effective life safety system. It's essential, however, that the benefits of these products are not compromised by false alarms.”*

*Hochiki Europe's products are highly intelligent and promised efficiencies in reducing false alarms, making them a sound choice for this project.”*

Speaking about the impact of false alarms, Michael Reed, Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe explained:

*“False alarms are a growing problem in the fire safety industry. According to a 2015 Building Research Establishment (BRE) report, false alarms cost public sector organisations more than £1 billion per year. As well as the financial implications involved, false alarms also waste valuable time and resources that could be spent on genuine emergencies.”*

*Education can play a vital role in eliminating false alarms. This, combined with correct installation and regular maintenance, can help building managers to reduce the risk of false alarms and protect the wellbeing of building occupants.”*

Following a successful installation across the seven buildings, a further two buildings have been fitted with a Hochiki Europe fire safety system.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE PROTECTS STUDENTS FROM FALSE ALARMS

For many students, the prospect of moving away from home and living alone for the first time can be daunting. Thanks to leading manufacturer of life safety solutions, Hochiki Europe, and NSC Sicherheitstechnik, students living at two sophisticated accommodation developments in Germany have one less thing to worry about when it comes to fire safety.

The developments are eight storeys high and capable of accommodating 239 residents at each location. Both named The Flag, they provide a flexible, smart city living space for students in Frankfurt and Munich, and feature premium fire detection and alarm equipment supplied by Hochiki Europe.

One challenge that arose when specifying the life safety solutions for The Flag was the complexity of the sites. The nature of the buildings called for compliance with European EN standards including EN 54 Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems. It was also imperative that products selected offered optimum reliability to safeguard the wellbeing of occupants and limit the risk of false alarms.

As well as being reliable, the products had to help keep running costs down across the sites, without compromising quality. Using products that offer enhanced energy efficiency credentials was therefore essential.

To address these challenges, Hochiki Europe's German-based systems partner, NSC Sicherheitstechnik, worked with building owners to identify and provide a range of life safety solutions for the two sites. This included a Solution F1 18 loop fire alarm system with 800 multi sensor detectors, which incorporate both smoke and thermal elements, and 925 base sounders.

Multi sensors offer a number of benefits when it comes to reducing the risk of false alarms in residential environments, thanks to in-built intelligence. The sensors can be programmed in a way that ensures alarm conditions are reached only when smoke and heat are present at specific levels to minimise false alarms, and prevent unnecessary evacuations of residents.

The base sounders selected for use likewise feature in-built intelligence, and have an auto shutdown feature to reduce the risk of noise pollution, a common issue in large housing developments such as The Flag. In addition, the base sounders offer a low current consumption to help increase energy efficiency.

Both the multi sensors and base sounders are also compatible with Hochiki Europe's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP), a range which offers high performance with enhanced reliability. This ensured compliance with strict fire safety standards as required by the developers.

Frank Schade, Sales Manager at NSC Sicherheitstechnik, added:

*“ By using these intelligent life safety solutions from Hochiki Europe, we have been given peace of mind that our premises are fully protected and compliant with international legislation. ”*

Both of The Flag developments were completed in 2017.

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## BRADFORD'S BROADWAY BENEFITS FROM INTELLIGENT LIFE-SAFETY SYSTEM

A recently opened shopping centre in Bradford, West Yorkshire, is now benefitting from an innovative range of intelligent life safety systems from Hochiki Europe.

The Broadway Shopping Centre, a large mall in the centre of Bradford operated by Westfield Corporation, was opened to the public in November 2015 and currently contains 77 restaurants, cafes and shops.

As a large retail space containing more than 570,000 square feet, The Broadway required a complex multi-networked fire detection system which could be quickly and easily accessed from a number of locations across the premises. Due to the large number of stores and thousands of daily visitors, it was also vitally important for the system to be addressable so that the exact whereabouts of an incident would be known as soon as possible.

Bradford-based electrical contractors, Pitts Wilson, were brought in by Westfield Corporation to specify the most effective solutions for the project. The group chose to install an intelligent fire alarm range produced by leading life safety system manufacturer, Hochiki Europe.

As part of the project, worth around £50,000, more than 1,400 Hochiki Europe ESP devices were installed across The Broadway Shopping Centre. This included 280 optical smoke sensors, 150 wall sounder beacons, 40 base sounder beacons and more than 100 call points. Hochiki Europe's EN 54-23 compliant Visual Alarm Devices (VADs) were also installed. The products were manufactured to perform in line with recently introduced guidelines which set stricter guidelines on the installation and performance of VADs in the UK.

VADs provide a visual indication of an emergency, in the form of a bright flashing light, which helps alert people who wouldn't normally pick up on audible-based fire alarms. In large retail spaces, this can prove vital for shoppers who are deaf, hard-of-hearing or wearing headphones.

The 1,400 detectors were interfaced with the shopping centre's building management system using a range of Hochiki Europe's input and output modules, which monitor for fire and fault throughout the premises.

Mark Ellse, Fire Design Engineer at Pitts Wilson, said:

*“ We chose Hochiki Europe’s innovative range of devices due to their smooth integration with Advanced electronics panels and graphics software. The plant control modules also gave us more flexibility when programming the cause and effect logic. Aesthetically, the devices fit in very well with the look of the new centre. ”*

Mark Smith, Hochiki Europe’s UK Sales Manager said:

*“ The Broadway Shopping Centre in Bradford breathed new life into the city and now shoppers can be reassured that it is protected by state-of-the-art life safety technology. Our intelligent and expandable ESP range is manufactured to the highest international standards, giving users freedom of choice without compromising on security. ”*

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## FIRE SAFETY IN THE BAG FOR SHOPPERS AT NEW PLOVDIV MALL

A new shopping complex in the city of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, is benefitting from a range of innovative life safety solutions produced by leading manufacturer, Hochiki Europe.

A much-anticipated addition to Plovdiv, the 60,000m<sup>2</sup> Markovo Tepe Mall has taken more than eight years to complete. As well as creating a convenient destination for shopping, leisure and dining in Bulgaria's second largest city, the development has generated over 500 jobs for residents, boosting the local economy.

Shopping centres like Markovo Tepe Mall attract high volumes of people on a daily basis, not all of whom are familiar with the layout of the stores, pedestrian walkways, entrances and exits or public spaces. This presents building owners and facilities managers with challenges in terms of life safety.

To ensure the wellbeing of staff and shoppers alike, Markovo Tepe Mall required an addressable life safety system that would allow duty holders to locate and draw attention to emergency incidents as quickly as possible. An increased number of detectors were also needed across the eight-storey site to ensure any potential risks could be effectively monitored.

### Reliable and easy to install

Security system specifier, Sectron Ltd, chose to install a selection of Hochiki Europe solutions which would address the challenges posed by such a large shopping centre. Having worked with the life safety system manufacturer for a number of years, Sectron Ltd was assured of the performance of Hochiki Europe's systems, which are easy to install and offer full compliance to European building standards.

The project saw the installation of products from Hochiki Europe's ESP range of intelligent devices, which all utilise the world-proven Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). The ESP product range offers high compliance to globally recognised safety standards whilst the open protocol gives installers the flexibility to incorporate devices from multiple manufacturers.

Optical smoke and thermal detectors, beam detectors and sounders compatible with ESP were installed as part of the project. Combined strobe and sounder beacons were also added to make sure building users are instantly notified to any safety issues within the complex.

The common areas of the Markovo Tepe Mall and the majority of individual stores have been fitted with Hochiki Europe products. In total, more than 1,300 detectors were installed throughout the shopping mall.

#### Safeguarding shoppers with intelligent systems

Speaking about the project, Vladimir Vasilev, Project Manager for First Facility Bulgaria EOOD commented:

“ Ensuring high standards of safety for shoppers and staff is of paramount importance. To achieve this, we needed a dependable and flexible fire detection system that would identify hazards at the earliest opportunity. By using Hochiki Europe’s intelligent and addressable products, we can immediately identify any threats and notify building users. ”

Georgi Kolev, Product Manager for fire protection and suppression systems at Sectron Ltd. added:

“ We’ve been using Hochiki Europe’s systems for more than 20 years. Not only are the company’s solutions highly reliable, they also offer superior networking capability. Because of this, we were able to easily network these products with the Kentec control panels used on this project. ”

Petia Simeonova, Hochiki Europe’s Central/Eastern European Sales Manager said:

“ Hochiki Europe has a wide range of addressable products and systems designed specifically to suit complex shopping environments like the Markovo Tepe Mall. Our ESP range offers unparalleled reliability for users in terms of performance and durability. We’re happy to have played a role in protecting this new venue for the local community in Plovdiv. ”

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## HOCHIKI ITALIA PRESERVES AND PROTECTS ITALIAN HISTORY

Teatro Italia in the Cannaregio district was first built in 1914 and designed in a neo-gothic architectural style with a nod to Art Nouveau. Since construction, the building has been home to a theatre, a cinema and a conference hall, before going into disuse in the late 1990s. In 2016, a project began to restore the space and its artistic features and transform it into a supermarket.

Take a walk through the streets and across the piazzas of Italy and you are sure to find stunning architecture that dates back centuries. Even on a trip to the supermarket, you can find yourself immersed in Italian history, and for leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki Italia, protecting this heritage was a priority on a recent project in Venice.

Teatro Italia in the Cannaregio district was first built in 1914 and designed in a neo-gothic architectural style with a nod to Art Nouveau. Since construction, the building has been home to a theatre, a cinema and a conference hall, before going into disuse in the late 1990s. In 2016, a project began to restore the space and its artistic features and transform it into a supermarket.

Security solutions installer, SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza srl, approached Hochiki Italia with a brief to provide a comprehensive life safety system for the site. As well as compliance with the latest European standards in life safety, it was essential that the system was energy efficient, helping to minimise the site's environmental impact. Due to the historic nature of the building, the aesthetics of the devices was also a key consideration.

Hochiki Italia specified a range of innovative sensors from its Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) range. As well as demonstrating the highest standards of life safety technology, this protocol also gives installers greater choice when selecting a control panel. For SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza, this meant being able to install a system that is both high performing and energy efficient.

The ALN-EN photoelectric smoke sensor was selected for Teatro Italia as it offers superior fire detection technology, and a high level of false alarm immunity thanks to its high performance chamber technology. The installation of Hochiki's ATJ-EN heat sensor complements these benefits. With its variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element, both of which are controlled from the Control Panel, users can choose to make either one or both elements simultaneously to be active in making the fire decision. Hochiki Italia also supplied wireless sensors and beam detectors for the Teatro Italia installation.

Speaking about the project, Eddo Quaggia, Chairman at SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza, commented:

“ *Italian architecture is some of the most beautiful yet complex in the world, and in some instances, this can make specifying a life safety system challenging.*

*With Hochiki Italia's extensive range of solutions, we were able to find products that offer exceptional standards of life safety and can be installed without disrupting the beautiful architecture of Teatro Italia.* ”

Ivano Tregnago, Sales Director at Hochiki Italia, added:

“ *While aesthetics is a key factor, all life safety equipment must not compromise system performance or safety. It is for this reason that our sensors have been designed to fit seamlessly into any environment.*

*We've been working with SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza for a number of years and I'm thrilled that we were able to support them with another fantastic project.* ”

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE'S FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM KEEP VICENTINI AUTO ON THE RIGHT ROAD TO SAFETY

Vicentini Auto first began trading in 1974 as a family owned and operated car dealership and is based in the northern Italian city of Verona. Since then the company has steadily grown into one of the country's most prominent outlets for the purchase of new and used vehicles, and is widely respected for the expertise of its employees.

The company specialises in the prestigious Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche marques and in 2010 it began work on the construction of a new 56,000m<sup>2</sup> state-of-the-art showroom, comprising three buildings that are designed to house models from each of these brands. The buildings took just over two years to complete and now form the largest car centre in Europe. With stock worth millions of Euros and many employees, visitors and customers on-site at any one time, Vicentini Auto recognised the importance of having a life safety infrastructure that could provide the earliest possible warning of fire.

After being contacted by Vicentini Auto, local distributor, DES, was commissioned to specify a fire detection system to protect the entire site.

Zeno Nicolis, the company's Technical Manager, explains:

“ We are also based in Verona and have supplied systems for many of the region's high profile projects. We have a number of highly qualified and experienced individuals on the team that possess in-depth knowledge of technical regulations and legislation in the sector. Since 1996 we have worked closely with Hochiki Europe and now distribute the company's industry leading solutions exclusively. ”

Following a visit to the site Nicolis was given a brief to configure a life safety system that adhered to strict technical and aesthetic guidelines. He comments:

“ Like the cars that are displayed there, these buildings are designed, built and finished to the very highest standards. Not only did the fire system have to be almost invisible, so as not to spoil the aesthetics of the showrooms, it also had to offer the very best levels of detection and reliability while reducing the likelihood of unwanted alarms. After considering the various options I felt confident that Hochiki Europe’s FIRElink aspirating fire detection solution would tick all the boxes. ”

The FIRElink range of detectors are the only high sensitivity detectors that are routinely applied to the protection of clean, dust free environments like modern car showrooms and the very dirty and dusty environments found in industrial applications. This is achieved by using Laser Dust Discrimination (LDD) with a patented dust management and separator system. These features have greatly extended separator life service intervals. At the other extreme, FIRElink is capable of providing the very highest levels of sensitivity in environments such as computer and clean rooms. In these applications it is able to sense the very smallest amounts of smoke.

Paul Adams, Hochiki’s Marketing Manager, comments:

“ Most types of buildings can benefit from having an aspirating fire detection system but it tends to be particularly useful where an early warning is desirable. This is because aspirating detectors are around 10 times more sensitive than general point detectors. ”

Most of the system at Vicentini Auto is hidden from view, as the majority of the 1,800m of pipework is located in places such as ceiling voids. This aesthetic advantage is achieved without compromising the effectiveness of the system and a total of 10 FIRElink-400 systems were installed across the three buildings. These were configured around Hochiki’s Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) – a robust addressable communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems.

Nicolis explains:

“ The system is linked to three control panels – one in each building – that form part of an integrated building automation system. Each control panel utilises four loops, which are all connected to a central control room from where it is possible to manage all the panels and associated devices on-site. ”

The installation also includes a variety of other Hochiki Europe products including 325 optical smoke detectors that feature its High Performance Chamber Technology. This minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a device that is incredibly responsive and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. In addition, 30 SPC-ET beam detectors and 101 call points were used.

While DES designed and commissioned the system, local company, Moretto, was responsible for its installation. The company’s Managing Director, Silvio Moretto, was delighted with the progress made once on-site and comments:

“ Hochiki products are extremely well designed. Installing Hochiki aspirating systems is incredibly quick compared to other fire detection systems, particularly when considering the building’s structure. ”

The installation was completed on schedule and the new system has worked perfectly, with no unwanted alarms reported. Zeno Nicolis of DES concludes: We are very pleased to have been involved with this project which sets new standards for car dealerships, not only in Italy but around the world. We had every confidence that the demands of Vicentini Auto for a reliable, unobtrusive and best-in-class fire detection system would be met by Hochiki Europe, and this has proven to be the case. ”

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## COSMETICS FIRM PUTS FIRE SAFETY FIRST THANKS TO HOCHIKI EUROPE

Estée Lauder is benefiting from fewer false alarms and streamlined maintenance at its Greek headquarters with a new high-performance fire safety system provided by Hochiki Europe.

The cosmetics firm's base in the heart of Athens, Greece, is large and subject to heavy traffic, with more than 150 employees spread across five floors. As such, having a high quality life safety system is crucial to protect the health and well-being of employees.

In such a busy building, the ageing fire detection system was growing costly and difficult to maintain. Moreover, the technology was becoming increasingly prone to false alarms, causing significant disruption to those in the office, and preventing workers doing their jobs.

“ The sheer number of false alarms was not just having a significant negative impact on the success of the company's Greek operations, it was contributing to alarm fatigue among its workers, explained Spiros Theodorou, Sales Manager at the firm leading the installation, IFSAS Fire and Security. Their response times to alerts were deteriorating as they assumed they were not serious, which could have had disastrous consequences for their safety in the event of a genuine emergency. ”

With the challenges of false alarms in mind, Estée Lauder called for a reliable solution capable of safeguarding its employees with minimal maintenance requirements or disruption. In addition, due to the high-profile nature of its offices, the company wanted products that would not impact on the aesthetics of the building interior. IFSAS Fire and Security was certain that Hochiki Europe had the right life safety solutions for the job, so recommended a number of its solutions for use throughout the building.

ALN-EN analogue optical smoke sensors from Hochiki Europe were installed throughout the building. Incorporating innovative high performance chamber technology, the solution optimises detection sensitivity for fires in their earliest stages, extending evacuation windows for workers in an emergency, while eliminating the issue of false alarms. The manufacturer's ATJ-EN analogue heat detectors were also fitted in the kitchen area and medium voltage electric boards. The solution incorporates both variable temperature and rate-of-rise heat elements to increase sensitivity to both slow and rapidly developing fires, further improving worker safety.

In addition, Hochiki Europe's YBO-R/SCI Short Circuit Isolator Bases were integrated into the fire safety network to protect the alarm systems from short circuits. CHQ-WSB Wall Sounder Beacons with YBO-R/3(RE) Mounting Bases were included to alert occupants as quickly as possible to a fire incident, as well as HCP-E (SCI) Addressable Call Points to enable individuals to raise alarms manually.

The technologies chosen are small and unobtrusive, minimising their impact on the visual appearance of the office interior, and can be monitored and set up from a central control panel, streamlining operating and maintenance procedures for Estée Lauder's facilities managers.

Moreover, they feature Hochiki Europe's cutting-edge open Enhanced System Protocol (ESP), making them compatible with standard components from other suppliers, and cutting the cost of aftercare. It also significantly reduced the duration and complexity of the installation project for installers, CORE Contractors, by simplifying the supply chain for parts.

George Lolis, Project Engineer at CORE Contractors, said:

“ *The compatibility of Hochiki Europe's systems with other products meant that we didn't have to wait for any specialist components to become available before installing, enabling us to carry out the project without any delay or disruption.* ”

*This significantly reduced the duration of the project, allowing us to deliver well within the tight deadline specified by Estée Lauder.* ”

Hochiki Europe, added:

“ *With so many workers using the building every day, not to mention visitors, Estée Lauder needed a life safety system that was reliable to keep any impact on its operations to a minimum and to protect its employees.* ”

*The solutions selected for the project delivered this reliability for the company, lowering aftercare needs and virtually eliminating false alarms. This has helped to save the facilities management team considerable time and money, while ensuring Estée Lauder's team remain safe and well as they go about their working day.* ”

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE 'PANDAS TO WWF'S FIRE DETECTION NEEDS'

One of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with a global network active in over 100 countries, WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment. It aims to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity and ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable.

Instantly recognisable thanks to its famous panda logo, WWF was originally set up in 1961 for the purpose of campaigning to save species endangered by human activity. With Prince Charles as the current president of WWF-UK, the organisation currently supports around 1,300 conservation and environmental projects around the world.

Prior to October last year WWF's base had been at Panda House in Godalming since 1987. However, as the end of the lease approached, some big decisions had to be made. Following a large donation from the Rufford Foundation, WWF determined to create its own exemplar building where it could work more effectively and spread its message. After carrying out an extensive search a brownfield site, on land that had previously been a car park owned and run by Woking Borough Council, was chosen for the new build.

Completed and opened in November 2013 by WWF Ambassador, Sir David Attenborough, the £20m Living Planet Centre is at the forefront of sustainable design and construction, incorporating a wide range of renewable energy technologies such as ground source heat pumps and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. One of the greenest buildings in the UK, it is an impressive timber framed structure that as well as housing WWF's administrative facilities is also home to the WWF Experience – an exciting interactive exhibition that brings to life the secrets of the natural world and the threats it faces.

Ensuring the safety of the Living Planet Centre's occupants was a key concern of WWF during the design process. Although the life safety system would obviously need to give the earliest possible warning in the event of a fire, it would also need to be sympathetic to the unique design features and minimise any disruption to the fabric of the building.

With a reputation for excellence as a result of its work on high profile projects across the UK, Cheshire based Fire Bright Solutions, a BAFE accredited Hochiki Systems Partner, was invited to tender for the project and present its recommendations.

Its Sales Director, Haydn Greeves, says:

“*Formed in 2003, Fire Bright Solutions aims to demonstrate the highest levels of technical competency, professional working practices and ethical conduct, so that our clients can be convinced about our quality of service. To do this we need to be 100 per cent confident in the reliability of the products we install and that’s why we suggested the use of a fire detection system from Hochiki Europe for the WWF.*”

Specialising in system design, installation, commissioning and maintenance, Fire Bright Solutions has worked with all types of fire detection technology.

Greeves considered all the options, and comments:

“*Given the design of the building, the aesthetic considerations and the spaces that had to be covered, I felt confident that Hochiki Europe’s FIRElink-400 aspirating fire detection solution would tick all the boxes.*”

The FIRElink-400 aspirating unit consists of an enclosure that houses the electronics that are powered from a supply, and a fan inside it that draws air in via four pipes that are connected to the unit. The air that is drawn in then goes into an aspirating chamber after passing through a filter. The air then passes across a laser light source that is projected into the air itself and if enough smoke particles are detected an alarm condition will be activated. All detectors in the FIRElink range have been approved to EN 54-20:2006 Classes A, B & C by LPCB.

Paul Adams, Hochiki Europe’s Marketing Manager, explains:

“*Most types of buildings can benefit from having an aspirating fire detection system but it tends to be particularly useful where an early warning is desirable. The system provides the very highest levels of sensitivity and is able to give warning at the very slightest trace of smoke. This is because aspirating detectors are around 10 times more sensitive than general point detectors.*”

Most of the system at the Living Planet Centre is hidden from view, as the majority of the pipework is located in ceiling voids and the roof fabrication.

Greeves states:

“*This aesthetic advantage is achieved without compromising the effectiveness of the system, which is configured around Hochiki Europe’s Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) – A robust addressable communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems.*”

The system comprises a three loop Advanced MX4403 control panel, which enables a programmed phased evacuation alarm strategy to meet the specific client and local fire authorities’ requirements. This is complemented by a wide range of Hochiki Europe devices including 4 FIRElink-400 aspiration detection systems, 63 optical smoke sensors, 16 HCP-E(SCI) call points with integral short-circuit isolators, 11 YBO-BSB base sounder beacons, 39 YBO-BS base sounders and 9 multi-heat sensors, which incorporate a variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element, allowing either thermal element or both elements simultaneously to be active in making the fire decision.

Part of the original car park has also been incorporated into the new building and Hochiki Europe technology has been installed here too in the form of 55 IP67 rated ACB-EW waterproof multi-heat sensors.

The Living Planet Centre has proved immensely popular with WWF staff and visitors alike, and it is being held as an exemplar of modern construction practice.

The last word goes to WWF spokesman Richard Eaton, who concludes:

“*It is essential that a state-of-the-art building like this has an equally innovative life safety infrastructure. I’m delighted with the sound advice and skilled craftsmanship that Fire Bright Solutions provided us with in the installation of a fire detection system from Hochiki Europe.*”

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# HTM HYBRID TOWER

ITALY | MESTRE | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



## HOCHIKI ITALIA REACHES NEW HEIGHTS AT THE HTM HYBRID TOWER

HTM Hybrid Tower is the tallest building in the Venice metropolitan area, standing at 84 metres tall. The redevelopment of the tower, which was previously occupied by one of Italy's most prevalent transport providers, cost €18 million in total.

As part of a project to revitalise a semi-abandoned Venetian suburb, and transform the district of Mestre from industrial precinct to recreational hotspot, HTM Hybrid Tower has undergone an extensive redevelopment. The project was supported by Hochiki Italia, the Italian arm of leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki, who were selected to provide solutions that would protect this now iconic building and its occupants.

The 19 floors of the HTM Hybrid Tower are comprised of commercial offices, a beauty centre and residential and retail environments, as well as dining and garage spaces. Comin Impianti srl, a local civil and industrial systems installer, was selected to specify solutions which would meet the needs of such a versatile building.

The installers chose to specify Hochiki fire detection systems which would suit each of the different environments within the tower. Working closely with Comin Impianti srl, Hochiki Italia identified a need to use solutions that could be networked with one another via multiple control panels, programmed in a way so that each device is interconnected.

It was also essential that the system was capable of identifying issues and reasons for alarm quickly, to give building occupants as much warning as possible.

Hochiki Italia specified a range of solutions from the Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) range to meet these challenges. The collection of intelligent, addressable fire detection and alarm equipment offers HTM Tower high performance and reliability, combined with an enhanced open protocol, giving building owners the added control of their systems.

Over 180 ALN-EN smoke detectors and ten ACC-EN multi-sensors were installed throughout HTM Hybrid Tower. The devices can all be controlled from eight panels networked so that, in instances where there is cause for alarm and/or evacuation, only affected zones will be notified.

In addition, Hochiki's devices offer both visual and audio alerts, which can be individually managed so only one operates in a given zone when needed, reducing the need for a full building evacuation for minor incidents.

Ezio Danese, Project Manager at Hochiki Italia noted:

“ Mixed use sites like the HTM Hybrid Tower require a range of complex devices. As well as solutions that offer unrivalled reliability, it is essential to use products that can be networked to suit specific environmental considerations.

A restaurant kitchen will require very different levels of monitoring compared to a garage space, and these variables need to be monitored and controlled. The Hochiki ESP range allows building owners to do just that, giving them a control system that can be tailored to ensure optimum performance. ”

Angelo Comin, owner of Comin Impianti srl said:

“ The HTM Hybrid Tower is a contemporary, hybrid project, where multiple functional levels co-exist. Protecting such a complex structure from the risk of fire was a challenge. However, the fact that Hochiki systems are able to communicate on the network was a key element in the specification process

It is also an added benefit that the solution's audio and visual capabilities can be managed separately which helps avoid unnecessary panic in case of a false alarm. ”

Hochiki systems are now installed and fully operational throughout the occupied floors.

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## HOCHIKI MIDDLE EAST PROTECTS LUXURY BUILDING IN DUBAI

A luxury residential and commercial building has recently been built in the Nad Al Hammar district of Dubai. This new development is in a prime location only 15 minutes to Sheikh Zayed Road and Dubai International Airport and 20 minutes to 'new' Dubai.

The contemporary residential and commercial building is spread over 12 floors and can accommodate approximately 800 occupants. With the building being designed for mixed use, it was essential that an efficient and reliable fire detection and emergency lighting solution was installed to ensure the safety of all occupants.

Torontec Engineering Consultants who are a building service and system design company were approached to work on Vista Star by the multidisciplinary Hassani Group of Companies, who were overseeing the design and installation of the buildings fire safety systems. Following a joint presentation from Hochiki Middle East and installers Dafoos, Torontec decided to specify Hochiki products for the project.

One of the special requirements for this job was the need for high quality products; Hochiki has led the way in the design and manufacture of life safety solutions for over 100 years, and as such their devices are world renowned for high-integrity and long-term reliability.

The consultant required the products specified to be fully compliant as well as of a high standard. Hochiki work closely with all major approval bodies across the world to ensure quality and environmental compliance is a top priority. As such, Hochiki fire detection and emergency lighting products fully conform to all the latest standards and regulations.

In 2018 Hochiki were awarded Dubai Civil Defence (DCD) approval for its fire detection and emergency lighting products. The new certification, which was granted following a year-long approval process, means that Hochiki's solutions can be used in fire safety and construction projects in every kingdom throughout the entire United Arab Emirates.

Sathish Kumar, Sales Manager, Hochiki Middle East commented:

“ *Our Japanese-designed products are built to be ultra-reliable and come with a three-year warranty as standard. The fact that we are now able to supply these robust and dependable solutions across the UAE means we can ensure greater levels of occupant safety in the region while also reducing false alarms. Considering the number fire safety emergencies in recent years, especially in high-rise properties, this should be seen as paramount for specifying decision-makers.* ”

Half way through the project, design and support services company Lead Consult were brought in to finish the project alongside Dafoos and Hochiki.

For this project over 900 addressable detectors were installed along with three 4-loop Fire Alarm control panels as well as Hochiki's emergency lighting solution FIREscape.

The original design featured a single panel, but it was clear once the project was underway that the size and complexity of the building necessitated three control panels on a network, to support the number of devices fitted. Working in close partnership with Hochiki Middle East allowed Dafoos to upgrade the installation quickly, supplying and installing the system within the programmed completion date.

To the satisfaction of all stakeholders the installation was completed successfully and on time.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE SCORES A WINNER WITH CARDIFF CITY FC

After being based at Ninian Park for the previous 99 years, in 2009 the team played its first game at the 28,000 capacity Cardiff City Stadium, a perfect example of a state-of-the-art sporting environment where life safety is a top priority.

### Promotion Challenge

The second largest stadium in Wales after the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff City Stadium was built on the site of the former Cardiff Athletics Stadium. Tiger Fire & Security Limited was approached by the project's electrical contractor, NG Bailey, at the planning stages of the development to provide its expertise in designing and installing the life safety infrastructure at the ground and work began in 2007.

Gareth Pezzack is Tiger Fire and Security's Managing Director and explains:

“ We became involved at design and concept stage for both the fire detection and combined public address/voice alarm (PA/VA) systems. Our level of input was considerable and we advised on the fire standards that had to be adhered to, including The Green Guide (Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds) and other relevant British Standards for the Fire, PA/VA and Disabled Refuge Systems. ”

The Green Guide is a government funded guidance book on spectator safety at sports grounds. It was created in the aftermath of the Hillsborough disaster and provides detailed guidance to ground management design in respect to increasing safety at sports grounds and stadiums, including how many spectators can be safely accommodated within a sports ground.

### Half Time

Tiger Fire & Security Limited designed and specified the installation of a BS5839-1: 2002 compliant Category L5 addressable fire detection system. A Category L5 system is one in which the protected area(s) and/or the location of detectors is designed to satisfy a specific fire safety objective. Often the design is based on a fire risk assessment or forms part of a fire engineering solution.

Tiger Fire & Security Limited selected a system based around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to sophisticated integrated building management and safety systems.

Gareth comments:

*“Hochiki's proven reliability made it the obvious choice for this installation and I knew that it would act as a one stop shop for all the Stadium's fire detection needs. The ESP protocol is extremely robust and we've never experienced any issues or problems with it.”*

#### All Levels

The Stadium's West Stand has five levels with Hospitality Suites, Player / Changing areas, Media Rooms, Club Shops, and Chief Executive Suite, whilst the general concourse area is effectively an outside environment. In this area Tiger Fire & Security Limited used Hochiki's multi-sensors and addressable beacons to reduce the likelihood of unwanted alarms. The fire detection system was fully integrated with the PA/VA system and it operates in two modes – match day and non-match day, each specifically designed to ensure maximum safety at different times.

To get the scale of the installation into perspective, the fire detection system and PA/VA system used a combined total of 20km of cable and 350 Hochiki devices, including smoke detectors, multi-sensors, loop base sounders and beacons, and input/output units. These components are linked to four networked panels located around the stadium, with the master control panel located in the Stadium's match control room.

#### Taking the lead

Hochiki's optical smoke sensors were also installed which feature the company's High Performance Chamber Technology. Hochiki's chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms.

As a modern stadium with very strong design values, aesthetics were a key consideration. Gareth says:

*“Although they are a functional part of the building's infrastructure, Hochiki's fire detection products have the added bonus of looking good. In modern buildings this is an important quality.”*

Wayne Nash, Stadium Manager at Cardiff City added:

*“With so many people in such a relatively small space, accessibility is very important and compliance with the guidelines as set out in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) is a definite must for us. We have to consider the needs of people of all abilities and so we made sure that all the areas have the requisite number of beacons and beacon/sounders in order to comply.”*

#### Back of the net

This was the first football stadium that Tiger Fire & Security Limited had worked on but since then it has received a number of tender invitations from football clubs around the country for similar work, due to the high level of design expertise that the company can offer.



ACC-EN

A measure of the company's contribution was noted when The Cardiff City Stadium won the Local Authority Building Control Wales Award for public/community buildings.

Graham Bond, Senior Building Control Surveyor at The Building Control Safety Advisory Group, concludes:

*“Tiger Fire & Security's input was greatly appreciated by myself and the rest of the design team in delivering design experience and solutions to what was a particularly complex and challenging project.”*

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE RECEIVES A STANDING OVATION AT THE HARPA REYKJAVÍK CONCERT HALL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Aspectacular addition to the Icelandic cultural landscape, when the Harpa Reykjavík Concert Hall and Conference Centre opened its doors to the public in May 2011 it was unanimously acclaimed as one of Iceland's most important contemporary buildings. As the city's first purpose built concert hall, it successfully combines being used as a classical music venue – serving as the home to the Iceland Symphony Orchestra and The Icelandic Opera – with hosting conferences and exhibitions.

The Harpa was the brainchild of Henning Larsen Architects and Batteríð, while the renowned artist, Ólafur Elíasson, designed the façade. It consists of a steel framework clad with 10,000 irregularly shaped glass panels of different colours that reference the columnar basalt common in Iceland's terrain. The use of the glass panels provides a dramatic effect when the unique daylight in Iceland – which ranges from almost 24 hours in summer to the briefest glimpse of the sun above the horizon in winter – covers the building in a myriad of different colours.

It consists of four halls, three of which are used for concerts. These comprise a main concert hall seating up to 1,600 people, a rehearsal hall that can also be used for concerts seating up to 450, and a chamber music hall seating 200. With events taking place on a daily basis, protecting the public and staff is vital and the building's fire detection system plays an important role in keeping them safe.

The project's main contractor, IAV, began work in early 2008 and asked Iceland's leading fire safety specialist, ARK Security, to design, specify and commission the fire detection system.

Kjartan Scheving, Managing Director of ARK Security, explains:

“ We have worked with IAV on many projects over the years, so when it came to implementing the life safety infrastructure at the Harpa they asked us to get involved. It was clear to me that the only way to ensure the level of reliability, quality and safety demanded was to install state-of-the-art products from Hochiki Europe. ”

Scheving and his team knew that traditional point detection would not be possible due to the Harpa's very high ceilings. He comments:

“ Some of ceilings are over 70m high so three Hochiki Europe FIRElink aspirating fire detection systems were needed to provide the requisite level of cover above 10m. These are linked to four control panels which have 1,600 addresses assigned to them in 24 separate zones. ”

Aspirating detectors are around 10 times more sensitive than general point detectors and are suitable where there is a high density of people and an early warning is desired.

Explaining how the system works, Paul Adams, Hochiki's Marketing Manager, states:

“ The FIRElink aspirating unit consists of an enclosure that houses the electronics that are powered from a supply, and a fan inside it that draws air in via pipes that are connected to the unit.

The air then passes across a laser light source that is projected into the air itself and if enough smoke particles are detected an alarm condition will be activated. ”

The FIRElink systems are configured around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) – a robust addressable communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. ESP delivers exceptionally secure signalling and also incorporates error-checking technology to safeguard the integrity of the data and ensure correct communication. The system also has features drift compensation technology that, when activated by the control panel, automatically recalibrates the detectors every 24 hours.

The use of smoke machines within the auditoria necessitated the ability to turn off the detectors in these areas for up to four hours at a time. Scheving says:

“ Unwanted alarms are a serious problem for any premises but for concert halls they can be particularly disruptive, leading to the evacuation of the building and the interruption of the event taking place. Being able to deactivate the detectors in specific zones gives designated personnel a chance to investigate the cause of the alarm before taking further action. ”

Aesthetics at the Harpa are very important and design continuity has to be maintained at all times. Being able to install the FIRElink systems' pipework in the ceiling voids helped ensure this, as did the availability of optical smoke detectors in black to match the colour of the ceilings in some of the rooms. The system also utilises a wide variety of other addressable devices from Hochiki Europe including manual call points, YBO-BSB base sounder beacons, multi-heat sensors, multi-heat sensors, CHQ-DIM dual input modules and CHQ-DRC dual relay controllers.

The flexibility that the fire detection system boasts means that it can control many other aspects of the building services infrastructure such as the elevators, ventilation system, smoke curtains, smoke hatches and sprinkler system. It also integrates and controls a public address/voice alarm (PA/VA) system that has 1,032 speakers that can also be isolated in specific zones. ARK Security spent a total of three years working at the Harpa and Scheving is delighted with what his team achieved.

He concludes:

“ When we talked to the Reykjavík fire service they said that it was the most sophisticated fire detection system in Iceland. Since the Harpa opened it has proven 100 per cent reliable with no unwanted alarms, which goes to show that specifying products from Hochiki Europe was the right decision. ”

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE USE CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY TO PROTECT A LEGENDARY LOCATION

A new boutique hotel has recently opened its doors in one of Northern Ireland's most iconic and culturally-significant buildings in Belfast's Titanic Quarter. This historic location, now known as the Titanic Hotel, is benefitting from a range of cutting-edge life safety technology from manufacturer, Hochiki Europe.

Throughout the early 20th century, the now-listed site was the headquarters for world-leading ocean-liner builders, Harland and Wolff, making it the nerve-centre of the largest shipyard in the world. The company was responsible for the design and construction of dozens of 'floating hotels', the most famous of which being the ill-fated Titanic.

In more recent years, the area around the listed building has been transformed by property developers, Harcourt, to create the 'Titanic Quarter', a prestigious new water-front regeneration. This includes the creation of the Titanic Hotel, designed as an homage to Belfast's shipbuilding history as well as its namesake ocean-liner. The building features an art-deco style interior that mirrors the craftsmanship and precise attention to detail paid when designing the RMS Titanic's interior.

There were various considerations to take into account when designing a life safety system for the hotel. The project called for a solution that could be easily installed with minimal disruption, and networked to suit the various environments inside the hotel including bedrooms, kitchens, a public-accessed museum, and conference spaces.

To meet these requirements, Hochiki Europe supplied a range of products from its Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) range. This intelligent, addressable fire detection and alarm equipment is designed and manufactured to the highest international standards, so staff and building owners can rest assured that all products installed are ultra-reliable.

Sensors in the ESP range are designed to utilise an electronics-free, ‘twist-fit’ mounting base. This gives installers, in this case Belfast-based Atlas World, the opportunity to fix the bases at “first fix” stage, with sensors added at a later stage, once the environment is clean. The ‘twist-fit’ feature also allows greater flexibility when fitting at height or in hard to reach areas. This also makes it easier for facilities managers to carry out maintenance as the sensor heads can be accessed from ground level using specialised smoke poles without the need to employ expensive and disruptive mobile platforms or “cherry-pickers”.

Over 200 sensors from Hochiki Europe’s ESP range were installed throughout the Titanic Hotel. Using a combination of ACC-EN multi-sensors and ALN-EN smoke sensors, Atlas World were able to programme the devices to suit the different environments within the hotel and their differing life safety considerations.

Richard Wharram, Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, noted:

“Hotels present a very unique set of requirements when it comes to life safety, even more so when they are listed buildings like the Titanic Hotel. The need to find solutions that match the different spaces and uses within the hotel, from restaurant kitchens and bars to bedrooms, public areas and lounges, while also ensuring ease of installation, can prove challenging.

Our ESP range is incredibly versatile and can be installed and networked in a way that works perfectly for each of these environments, ensuring optimum system monitoring across the entire building. It’s fantastic to see how new technology is helping protect such an iconic project and a unique part of Belfast’s history.

Robert Creagmile, Key Account Director at Atlas World, added:

“Installations in buildings with high ceilings and heritage features require specialist solutions. Hochiki Europe’s range of sensors can be fitted in two parts so they were ideal for use in the Titanic Hotel. Thanks to Hochiki Europe, we were able to install the system with greater efficiency with little disruption to day-to-day operations.

Adrian McNally, General Manager of Titanic Hotel Belfast commented:

“The restoration of the former Harland and Wolff Offices into a luxury hotel has been very complex. It is vital we have all current fire and life safety systems in place to ensure the comfort and safety of our guests is not compromised. However, we also wanted to make sure we preserved the architectural and visible integrity of yesteryear. We believe we have achieved this as our hotel has the most advanced technology to allow this safety, while being nearly invisible to our guests.

Since opening, the Titanic Hotel has welcomed over 55,000 overnight guests, and was named Ulster Tatler’s Hotel of the Year for 2018.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE PROVES TO BE A HARD ACT TO FOLLOW AT THE SAVOY THEATRE

Located in London's West End, the Savoy Theatre is one of the nation's landmark entertainment venues, with a history as rich and varied as the performances which take place there. Hochiki Europe's innovative fire detection products have been installed throughout the building to ensure that the show always goes on.

### The heat is on

The Savoy Theatre is no stranger to the consequences of fire and it made headlines around the world on the 12th February 1990 when, during a series of renovations, a fire gutted most of the building except for the stage and backstage areas. The original design, however, had been preserved, allowing the accurate restoration of the theatre.

Since 1990 the prevention of fire within the Savoy Theatre has been a top priority and the building's owners and managers insist on having only the best fire detection systems to keep this Grade II listed building and its occupants safe.

### Show time

Kent based fire detection specialist, CTA Fire, has a great deal of experience specifying and installing fire detection systems in theatres, and has worked with The Ambassador Theatre Group and The Really Useful Theatre Company among others. CTA Fire's knowledge of this sector resulted in it being consulted to provide recommendations for a set of guidelines for the installation of fire detection systems in theatres.

**Product placement**

Following the guidelines, CTA Fire recommended the installation of a BS5839 part 1:2002 compliant Category L2/P2 addressable fire detection system in the Savoy. An L2 system is designed for the protection of life and has automatic detectors installed in escape routes, rooms adjoining escape routes and high hazard rooms.

David Rooney explains:

*“ I have used Hochiki’s fire detection systems for many years and had no hesitation in recommending their use in the Savoy Theatre. Hochiki’s solutions are reliable, innovative and backed-up with a superb support service. The ESP Protocol being immune to false alarms helps us meet our duty to avoid false alarms through design and minimise the potential for disruption during a show. ”*

**Top performance**

CTA Fire selected an intelligent analogue addressable system based around Hochiki’s Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to sophisticated integrated building management and safety systems.

The installation involved replacing an old system with Hochiki’s products, utilising the existing mineral insulated cable (MIC).

Sean Knight, CTA’s Senior Engineer and Project Manager, comments:

*“ Once we had commissioned the ESP system we integrated it with a control panel. The system works perfectly and has been configured to perform in two modes – day and show. Day mode simply requires everyone to leave the building straight away when the system is activated, while show mode silences the call points and gives designated personnel 90 seconds to react to acknowledge the problem. Once acknowledged, staff get a further five minutes to investigate the situation and take the necessary course of action having been notified of the origin of the alarm condition via a full message pager. ”*

**A class act**

A wide variety of Hochiki products were specified including heat sensors, call points, base sounders and sensor bases. Hochiki’s optical smoke sensors were also installed which feature the company’s High Performance Chamber Technology. Hochiki’s chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types, helping to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. Unwanted alarms are a serious problem for any premises but for theatres they can be particularly disruptive.

Sean Knight adds:

*“ To minimise the possibility of unwanted alarms we installed Hochiki’s heat detectors around the edge of the stage where smoke detectors were not appropriate. We were also able to integrate a switch to allow a low sensitivity mode on the smoke detectors near to the stage for use during show time. ”*

The project was not without its challenges, as for a period of time both old and new alarms had to work simultaneously until the new installation was complete. Also, CTA Fire had to work around the performances, which meant sometimes having to carry out work through the night.

For the Savoy, like any other building that welcomes the public, preserving its aesthetic integrity was important. This is an area where David Rooney feels that Hochiki products excel. He explains:

*“ Fire detection products need to blend in with their surroundings and it’s my view that Hochiki’s products not only perform brilliantly but look good too. ”*

The system has worked perfectly since installation with no unwanted alarms reported.

The final word goes to Oli Matthews, the Savoy Theatre’s Deputy Chief Electrician, who summarises:

*“ The Hochiki fire detection system has been excellent and 100 per cent reliable. We want our visitors to be safe at the Savoy and the system that CTA Fire installed gives me every confidence that they will be. ”*

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE PROTECTS WORLD WAR II HISTORY

Lincolnshire is a county that contributed heavily to the United Kingdom's efforts in World War II. It is for this reason that the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, Tony Worth CVO, wanted to create a facility that would recognise and commemorate those who served in the Bomber Command Unit.

As part of the estimated £16million building project, local providers of fire and security systems, Freedom, were brought on board to specify and install a fire alarm system that would offer unparalleled performance without disrupting the aesthetics of the space.

Working closely with Hochiki Europe, Freedom selected a range of products from the company's ESP range. The ESP collection of intelligent addressable fire detection and alarm equipment offers high performance and reliability, combined with an enhanced open protocol.

Recognising that many specifiers need to consider the aesthetics of life safety solutions as well as performance when selecting products, Hochiki Europe's ESP range features ivory, black and white sensors.

Freedom opted to use black sensors to minimise their visual presence throughout the centre. It was for this same reason that the sensors had to be carefully positioned throughout the building. Having carried out multiple site surveys, Freedom fit the sensors so that both design and safety regulations were successfully met.

In total, 58 optical smoke sensors were installed throughout the site, along with three heat sensors, 23 remote LED indicators and 14 manual call points. All devices are controlled by one intelligent fire panel provided by Kentec Electronics, part of the Hochiki group of companies.

Images courtesy of IBCC.

To find out more about the International Bomber Command Centre, visit: [www.internationalbcc.co.uk](http://www.internationalbcc.co.uk)

Speaking about the project, James Slater, Manager at Freedom Fire and Security, commented:

“ *These innovative solutions from Hochiki Europe have allowed us to offer the centre reliable and flexible solutions that protect these important records from behind the scenes.*

*The fact that the ESP range features an open protocol is an added bonus for us, as it gives us even more flexibility on system design and installation.*

”

Neil Eves, Systems Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, noted:

“ *Due to high occupancy levels and complex layouts, museums and other large facilities, such as the International Bomber Command Centre, are particularly challenging environments when it comes to life safety. Our ESP range ensures all spaces can be protected to regulations efficiently, ensuring the safety of visitors and employees.*

*In buildings where aesthetics and design are also important, it's vital to consider equipment which doesn't compromise on the overall look and feel of the space. Using black sensors from our ESP range was key to achieving this in the new Lincoln memorial.*

”

The International Bomber Command Centre opened in January 2018.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE MARINE LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS HELP PERENCO HOTEL BARGE SET SAIL

Innovative fire safety systems from Hochiki Europe have been used to protect the residents of a renovated hotel barge operated by oil and gas company Perenco in Gabon.

Able to accommodate up to 120 people, the barge has been designed to offer a comfortable home away from home for Perenco employees while they are working on the company's oil exploration projects out at sea. Operating in such remote locations, having an advanced, reliable life safety system specially designed for marine environments is vital to protect the ship and uphold the health and well-being of everyone on board.

When renovating the barge, Perenco wanted to replace the ageing life safety technology used throughout the vessel, to ensure it continued to comply with relevant Gabonese regulations and, at the same time, was suitable for use in challenging marine environments.

The company tasked fire protection installers, Autochim, to select and fit the most appropriate solutions for the needs of the barge, while ensuring it remained compatible with the existing cabling.

Jean-Marie Rabier, Sales Manager at Autochim recommended solutions from Hochiki Europe.

“ The barge didn't just have sleeping quarters, it had a wide range of zones, from the kitchens to the engine room, which all had unique life safety requirements that needed to be addressed, explained Rabier. Hochiki Europe offered equipment specially developed for the marine environment that would be capable of meeting the needs of every space on the barge, ensuring the new system would offer the best possible protection for residents.

”

Hochiki Europe’s ESP Marine Approved Intelligent range of analogue addressable fire safety systems were chosen for use on the project. In addition to having Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB) and Germanischer Lloyd approval to EU Marine Equipment Directive requirements, the range consists of analogue addressable equipment that allows fire incidents to be precisely located and dealt with quickly. In doing so, they can help minimise damage to the vessels on which they are installed, as well as reduce the risk to residents. Moreover, the ESP Intelligent range’s reliability and software enhancements can virtually eliminate the risk of false alarms, helping to cut disruption to the daily routines of the barge’s residents.

Hochiki Europe, added:

*“ The barge has a high turnover of residents, as workers leave at the end of their cycles and new ones arrive to take over. As a result, many of the people on the ship may not be familiar with the layout of the vessel. This makes life safety system reliability even more important, to ensure residents are not unduly alarmed by false alerts and to ensure they remain relaxed and comfortable while they are living on the ship. ”*

In total, more than 139 optical smoke detectors were fitted across each deck of the ship, in addition to 17 rate of rise (ROR) heat detectors. Some 20 manual call points were installed at strategic points throughout the barge, as well as 20 audible alarms and nine visual alarms. An addressable, marine approved fire panel was also installed, providing a single, central location from which the entire life safety system could be controlled and monitored, simplifying the maintenance process for the crew in charge of fire safety.

All of the products from Hochiki Europe were integrated quickly and effectively into the existing cabling system. This significantly streamlined the project, which saved time and resources, and kept the time the barge spent out of use to a minimum.

Astrid Bouchardie, HSE Manager, Perenco concluded:

*“ Hochiki Europe and Autochim both worked hard to carry out the renovation of the barge’s life safety system on time and they more than delivered. ”*

*The installation was completed quickly, minimising the amount of time the barge was out of action, as well as cutting the disruption to Perenco’s operations in Gabon. As a result, we now have a fully compliant, reliable fire safety system on the barge, ensuring we can continue to keep our workers comfortable and, above all, safe while they are out at sea. ”*

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE TAKES TO THE SEA ON THE DUTCH EX-NAVY SHIP

Having been moored in the fishing town of Urk for several years, The Castor's glory days as one of the Dutch Navy's premier vessels were a distant memory and the 46m long, 8.5m wide ship was a shadow of its former self. Once the pride of the Dutch shipbuilding industry, it was in a state of complete disrepair – a rusting hulk that served as a home to a group of squatters.

That was until 2007 when a group of maritime enthusiasts led by Mario van Parijs joined forces with the sole intention of restoring the ship.

The Castor was taken to the Rijnhaven in Rotterdam and a restoration project began in earnest. Fast forward to early 2011 and as a result of the gargantuan efforts of a team of sponsors and volunteers, the vessel had been transformed to its original state.

After being approached by AF-X Fire Solutions, which had furnished the ship's engine room with fire extinguishers, Fire Products & Solutions Netherlands (FSN), one of the country's leading providers of life safety equipment, was asked to contribute its expertise and configure a suitable fire detection system.

Ruud Benjamins, FSN's Manager, explains:

“ We agreed to supply, design, commission and help with the installation of a system for The Castor based on Hochiki Europe's market leading range of products. ”

The design that FSN came up with was based on Hochiki's innovative Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent and integrated fire detection and provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable variants through to sophisticated integrated building management and safety systems.

For obvious reasons devices from the company's range of marine approved products were chosen.

Paul Adams, Marketing Manager at Hochiki Europe, comments:

*“ Our marine approved products have an enhanced IP rating and are designed to offer the best levels of environmental protection. Only products that have been approved for marine use by a recognised marine approvals body should be used for this type of application. ”*

Hochiki's ESP analogue addressable marine approved range has Lloyd's Register approval, and the products have also been tested and approved to the Marine Equipment Directive (MED) standard by Germanischer Lloyd (GL).

The Castor's fire detection system comprises a range of smoke and heat detectors along with manual call points configured around a Kentec control panel.

Benjamins says:

*“ We installed a total of 40 ALG-ENM optical smoke sensors which feature the Hochiki's High Performance Chamber Technology. This chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. ”*

Five marine approved multi-heat detectors were installed in the galley and food preparation areas. These products incorporate a variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element, both of which are controlled from the control panel, allowing either thermal element or both elements simultaneously to be active in making the fire decision. These were complemented by a total of eight marine approved manual break glass call points, which are operated by pressing an EN54 compliant plastic element that produces a high level ESP interrupt, allowing the control panel to respond very quickly.

The installation went very smoothly and FSN's experts were on hand to assist the volunteers wherever possible. Asked what proved to be the biggest challenge, Benjamins replies:

*“ The ship is made of iron and steel, so drilling holes into thick metal was sometimes tricky and always time consuming. This was the first time we had installed a fire detection system on a ship, so it was a learning curve that necessitated a great deal of patience. ”*

The installation was completed in December 2011 and this graceful and powerful ship is now available to hire as a unique venue for parties, events and promotions. Even though it is now open for public use, work is ongoing and the fire detection system has been called into action on more than one occasion.

Benjamins explains:

*“ Recently, when some welding was being carried out, a section of dry teak decking caught alight. The situation was quickly brought under control with only minor damage but I was delighted with the fast response of the Hochiki system. ”*

The Castor is a prime example of what can happen when a group of like-minded individuals set their sights on achieving an objective. The ship is now one of the focal points of Rotterdam's Rijnhaven and is open for viewing.

For Mario van Parijs this represents the culmination of a long journey and he concludes:

*“ Bringing The Castor back to life has not been an easy task but it has been immensely satisfying. It would not have been possible without all the help that we received and I'd like to thank FSN for installing the ship's state-of-the-art Hochiki fire detection system that will ensure the safety of all those on board. ”*

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE PROVIDES THE LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM FOR SLIGO HOSPITAL

As part of a £1.6 million fire safety project, Hochiki Europe has been chosen by Masterfire Life Safety Systems to provide a complete life safety solution to protect the Sligo Regional Hospital and its hundreds of patients.

Providing medical care to the residents of Sligo, Leitrim, South Donegal and West Cavan, Sligo Regional Hospital is spread over seven stories and houses up to 400 patients. With such large numbers of building occupants at any one time, the hospital presented a number of challenges and required a highly reliable life safety system that complied with all relevant regulations.

Following a competitive tender, fire protection and life safety company, Masterfire, was commissioned by the hospital to oversee the installation of a new complete life safety system. To ensure optimum protection for the building and its patients, Paul McNulty, Sales Director at Masterfire, drafted in Hochiki Europe to provide multiple safety solutions.

“ Having previously worked with Hochiki Europe and its products on numerous projects, we knew the solution provided would not only be easy to install and maintain, but would also provide minimum disruption to the day to day running of the hospital, explained McNulty. The project required a system which offered complete accountability and testing control, so it was clear that specifying FIREscape emergency lighting solutions, alongside an ESP intelligent fire detection system, would be the best way to meet the brief. ”

Sligo Regional Hospital’s brief focused on the need to meet stringent hospital environment regulations. Hochiki Europe’s FIREscape system is fully compliant with all European emergency lighting standards, making it the optimum solution. Alongside this, the system ensured that extra low voltage cable could be utilised, speeding up installation time and eliminating the risk to building users.

Masterfire also specified the use of Hochiki Europe's ESP intelligent (analogue addressable) fire detection range. With a complex building design and multiple occupancies, the ESP range's proven reliability and software enhancements provided the hospital with a system that virtually eliminates false alarms. Installing the ESP solution meant that patients and staff can now use the hospital without interruptions or panic from false alarms, while saving valuable resources by avoiding Fire Response charges.

Martin Green, Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, added:

*“ Working in a specialist building such as a hospital, presents various challenges for life safety. There are a number of vulnerable people and visitors who aren't familiar with the building layout. This means the fire safety system installed required a high level of reliability to minimise the risk of false alarms and ensure the solution functions effectively in the case of a fire.*

*All of our products are simple to install which reduces the installation time dramatically. FIREscape is also a modular, LED system, which means it can be adapted to the size of a particular building, providing Sligo Regional Hospital with a significant cost saving.*

Masterfire and Hochiki Europe provided Sligo Hospital with 34 FIREscape panels, with 3,800 lighting devices all monitored via a full graphics package. While the fire alarm system comprised 49 control panels linked to 4,000 devices throughout the premises.

Marguerite Heavey, Fire & Safety Officer at HSE Northwest Estates Department, said:

*“ Throughout the project, both Hochiki Europe and Masterfire worked extremely hard to control infection and protect our patients and staff.*

*The installation caused minimal disruption, meaning that employees could do their job without the introduction of the new system interfering. Hochiki Europe has provided Sligo Regional Hospital with a fully compliant, highly robust fire and emergency lighting system complete with graphics control and full accountability.*

Watch the full video case study on our YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/HochikiEurope](https://www.youtube.com/HochikiEurope)

For more information about Masterfire, please visit:  
[www.masterfire.ie](https://www.masterfire.ie)

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## SACRO CUORE DON CALABRIA HOSPITAL AN EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AND IN SECURITY

“Sacro Cuore Don Calabria” hospital in Negrar (Verona) opened in 1944 and is a private hospital accredited by Regione Veneto. Property of Opera Don Calabria, the hospital demonstrates excellence at national and European level, thanks to both the highly skilled health personnel and the latest technological equipment installed at the hospital.

The entire structure is made up of different buildings totaling in the region of 90,000m<sup>2</sup> and comprising of more than 30 medical departments.

With the hospital’s exponential expansion, in 1993 it was necessary to choose a fire safety system that would guarantee adequate protection for goods and the thousands of people who visit the hospital every day.

The Hospital’s technical staff, in collaboration with the main installation company Toscoveneta Impianti snc, assessed the security needs of the buildings and decided that Hochiki fire detection equipment would be the ideal solution to meet the high standards required by the hospitals clientele.

The system is made up of 22 Syncro panels networked with each other and 4 repeater panels. There is also a total of 4,800 ALN-EN Photoelectric Smoke Sensors, 60 ATJ-EN Analogue Heat Sensors, 53 ACC-EN multi-sensors, over 300 control modules, 8 extinguishant control panels, 5 aspiration system and 5 gas detection panels.

This is an exciting project and the expansion work of the entire structure is still evolving.



## FLAGSHIP NHS TRUST HOSPITAL CHOOSES HOCHIKI

The Norfolk and Norwich Hospital is the UK's first largescale single-build PFI (Private Finance Initiative) hospital with a staff of 5,500 treating over half a million people.

Such a vast modern complex, over a site area of 63 acres (25.5 hectares), requires optimum fire detection systems supported by the very latest addressable technology.

Defensor Fire Detection Systems Limited were contracted by the hospital to design, install and maintain the new fire detection system, and they had no hesitation in recommending Hochiki's ESP range of detection products as the perfect fit for the hospital.

This complex public building has been operational for two years and within this period the detection has provided 100 percent reliability. This reliability is synonymous with Hochiki's brand that includes the ESP digital communications protocol, incorporating ARM capability (Alarm Reduction Management), which in conjunction with the control panel significantly minimises the potential for false or unwanted alarms.

The performance of the system for this prestigious project is a measure of the quality of Hochiki's technology and Defensors engineering, providing the best possible life protection for staff and patients. This unrivalled reliability has proven to provide the lowest cost of ownership and total system integrity.

To date the installation includes over 6000 photoelectric analogue addressable smoke sensors utilising Hochiki's 'High Performance Optical Technology'. In addition, 2500 Hochiki Input/Output Modules are used for monitoring and control or external equipment from the loop utilising Hochiki's fire data communications platform.



## HOCHIKI PROTECTS NHS FILTON BLOOD CENTRE

A reputation for reliability and flexibility led to Hochiki Europe fire detection equipment being selected to safeguard the UK's National Blood Service's Filton Blood Centre near Bristol. The £60 million purpose-built, two-storey facility, processes 600,000 units of blood each year. It is the largest blood processing centre in the world and home to the University of Bristol's MSc in Transfusion and Transplantation Sciences. In addition to training facilities, the new building also houses administrative offices, laboratories, clean rooms and blood product manufacturing areas.

A total of 891 Hochiki ESP – Enhanced System Protocol – open-protocol devices were installed by Bristol-based MAT Fire Systems Ltd. They include: 615 optical smoke sensors that incorporate Hochiki's unique Flat Response Technology; 94 analogue addressable, loop-powered beacons that utilise the latest high-intensity LED technology; and 79 manual call points.

The Hochiki solution also comprised 75 Input/Output modules for monitoring and controlling ancillary equipment from the loop. The Hochiki devices are linked to three Advanced Electronics fire detection and alarm control panels, one with a two-loop configuration and two with four-loop configurations.

Commenting on the Hochiki devices, Rick Coles, Managing Director of MAT Fire Systems, says:

“ The new Filton Blood Centre does critical life support work and is in operation around the clock every day of the year, so there could be absolutely no compromise on equipment reliability. We have used Hochiki equipment several times in the past and have found nothing on the market that compares with its dependability and zero false alarms record. He continues: The Hochiki devices can also easily accommodate the inevitable reconfiguration of the open-plan working spaces that are likely to be made to meet the Centre's future needs. ”

Selecting Hochiki's products enabled the MAT Fire Systems installation to incorporate the very latest technological advances in enhanced detection speed and accuracy, and the avoidance of false alarms.

For example, Hochiki's ESP analogue addressable open protocol has three features that contribute significantly towards a high immunity to false alarms. It provides what is called full digital transmission for exceptionally secure signalling; it incorporates Hochiki's Checksum error checking to safeguard the integrity of the data and ensure reliably correct communication; and has high immunity from electrical noise, so there are no false alarms due to corruption.

To further boost immunity from false alarms, Hochiki also has a suite of false alarm management tools called ARM – which stands for Alarm Reduction Management – within the ESP system. Some elements of ARM are initiated automatically, while others are programmable to satisfy specific site needs.

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## HOCHIKI PROTECTS THE WELLCOME TRUST CENTRE FOR HUMAN GENETICS

The Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics (WTCHG) is a research institute of the University of Oxford, funded by the University, the Wellcome Trust and numerous other sponsors.

Its scientific objective is to explore all aspects of the genetic susceptibility of disease, including the understanding of how DNA variants contribute to the risk of disease in the population. Research activities include bioinformatics, cardiovascular disease, genomics, immunity and inflammation, metabolism, neurogenetics, statistical genetics and transgenics.

Since 1999 the WTCHG has been based in the Henry Wellcome Building of Genomic Medicine, which is located on the University of Oxford's Old Road Campus. The WTCHG houses more than 400 occupants spread over three floors.

The original fire alarm and detection system installation, which was more than 10 years old, was in need of replacement. This was driven not only by the age of the system, but by the dwindling availability of spares, very significant costs involved with all maintenance and attendance issues, all of which was brought about by the need for full reliance upon a particular manufacturer because the system was closed protocol.

The University of Oxford Safety Office insists upon open protocol systems, together with commonality of equipment. The reason for this requirement is to be able to have a central maintenance contract with a competent contractor for the whole of the University estate, negating any problems with accessing software or equipment availability. The use of Hochiki devices and Kentec control panels for all replacement and new systems has been the norm for the past twenty years.

Oxfordshire based Pyrotec Services was asked to look at the existing system with a view to total replacement, which included renewing all existing devices and control panels, the retention wherever possible of all existing wiring, the provision of loop powered sounders, the enhancement of detection coverage, and improvement of access for maintenance purposes in certain areas, particularly within ceiling voids and lift shafts.

Following detailed proposals and costs the installation of a new analogue addressable fire alarm and detection system was agreed and funded by the University Safety Office. It was agreed that the new system be based around the Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP).

Paul Adams, Hochiki's Marketing Manager, comments:

“*ESP is a robust total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multipurpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to integrated building management and safety systems. It is a robust system and perfectly suited for organisations such as WTCHG, where maximum reliability and minimum disruption from unwanted alarms are essential.*”

The project involved installing a 12 loop, 96 zone, analogue control panel and associated devices utilising the existing cabling infrastructure. Approximately 1,000 devices were installed including nearly 500 intelligent multi-heat sensors, which incorporate a variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element – both of which are controlled from the control panel, allowing either one or both elements to be active in making the fire decision.

Asked why multi-sensors were the preferred option, Pyrotec's Paul Slater comments:

“*Due to the diversity of work being carried out at WTCHG, it was important to have the option of being able to switch between detection modes on a daily basis. This provides versatility without compromising on safety.*”

*Access for visual inspection and the maintenance of smoke and heat detectors is essential. The University of Oxford Safety Office specifies that if point detection cannot be installed within a lift shaft in a manner that allows safe access (without the need to stand or ride on the lift car roof) a single zone air-sampling detector is to be installed outside the shaft with a short run of pipe work into the shaft. Consequently this requirement resulted in the installation of an Hochiki FIRElink aspirating system.*”

As a result of careful planning the installation went very smoothly and was completed with minimal disruption to the activities within the building. Fire detection cover was maintained 24/7 during the installation by carefully interfacing between the new and old systems as the work progressed.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE'S FIRE DETECTION SOLUTION SENDS THE RIGHT SIGNALS AT ASHFORD INTERNATIONAL

Located just a short walk from the centre of Ashford in Kent, Ashford International railway station is well known to European travellers as one of the primary UK transport hubs for Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels.

The station was built in 1995 and opened in 1996 prior to the completion of Section 1 of the now fully operational HS1 high-speed rail link from London to the Channel Tunnel. It is used for international services, currently only operated by Eurostar, between London and France and Belgium. The station is operated by Eurostar on behalf of HS1 Limited.

Over recent years Tim Garrett, Ashford International's Maintenance Manager, began experiencing significant problems with the station's fire detection system. He explains:

**“** We started to get an increasing number of unwanted alarms and because it was a closed protocol system, we found that replacement parts were becoming difficult and expensive to source. **”**

Although they didn't originally install the system, Gillingham based Senseco Systems was recently procured by Eurostar and with the support from Tim Garrett Senseco was engaged to maintain it. Steve Thomas, the company's Business Development Director, comments:

**“** We are a specialist fire detection and security solutions provider and our team has worked at Ashford International for a number of years. During our planned maintenance regime we found that we were spending an increasing amount of time sourcing spare components. This situation was untenable, so we discussed with Tim the benefits of installing a new system that would eliminate these problems. **”**

After Tim issued a tender document in March 2011 Senseco outlined its proposal which, following a rigorous procurement strategy, was duly accepted. Central to its plan was replacing the existing system with a solution based around Hochiki Europe's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP).

Steve based this decision on a number of criteria and says:

*“Hochiki is well known and respected within the rail sector and its products are used in some of the busiest stations in the UK. We also know that ESP is one of the most resilient protocols on the market and is able to utilise an existing cabling infrastructure without experiencing any deterioration in performance. These factors meant that Hochiki's products could offer the requisite level of reliability, quality and performance required for this project.”*

ESP is a robust total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to integrated building management and safety systems.

Products from Hochiki's HFP range were utilised and the analogue addressable system comprises of an eight loop main control panel that is supplemented by two repeater panels and a number of mimic panels sited in various locations in the main terminal.

A total of over 700 HFP devices were installed including 90 interfaces, 13 heat sensors, and 77 call points including weatherproof call points. A number of combined smoke and heat detectors, single and dual input modules, and dual relay controllers were also used.

Railway stations can be very dirty and dusty environments so it was important to use devices that have a high resistance to unwanted alarms. To account for this Senseco installed over 500 Hochiki optical smoke sensors. These

devices feature the company's unique High Performance Chamber Technology, which minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms at Ashford International.

The installation went incredibly smoothly and according to Senseco Systems' Steve Thomas, many of the possible obstacles were surveyed and expertly managed by our contracts department and therefore avoided. He says:

*“For an upgrade project like this in a public building maintaining detection coverage during the installation is important. To make sure this happened we replaced one loop at a time so that the entire station was continually covered and the protection of those on the premises was maintained at all times.”*

The project was a huge success and we are very proud of our contract performance, our product partnership with Hochiki and our excellent relationship with a high profile client such as Eurostar.

Ashford International's Tim Garrett is delighted with the result. He concludes:

*“In a busy environment like this carrying out this type of installation work discreetly and with minimal disruption can be difficult, however, Senseco Systems managed this with apparent ease. After the problems we'd experienced previously our new state-of-the-art fire detection system from Hochiki Europe has had a positive impact on the smooth running of the station and I'm confident that staff and passengers now have the best possible protection.”*

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## HOCHIKI FULLY NETWORKED INTO NETWORK RAIL

Hochiki Europe detectors are integrated to a fully networked fire detection and alarm system at Edinburgh Waverley station.

A fully networked fire detection and alarm system has been developed and installed for Network Rail, providing centralised control of fire monitoring at Edinburgh Waverley station, as part of a major enhancement programme.

In excess of 500 Hochiki detection devices have been integrated into the system by specialist contractors, Dante Fire & Security, and the system comprises four main panels from Advanced Electronics.

Central to the network's system design is the flexibility to accommodate cause-and-effect scenarios within complex fire strategies. For such a demanding project, system reliability and integrity are of paramount concern, and Dante affirms that '*Hochiki's warranted product quality and reliability*' were deciding factors in determining Hochiki as the preferred technology for this prestigious installation programme.

The quality assured, interference-free performance of Hochiki's ESP range detectors is just one aspect of the efficient functionality demanded of the installation by the Network Rail specifiers.

Dante highlights the ease with which Hochiki's analogue addressable sensing devices can be sub-addressed as of particular benefit during system configuration. In addition, Dante emphasises the advantage of Hochiki products in permitting a more flexible interface by allowing more devices to be added to the loop compared with any other competitive technology.

Commenting on the installation Neil Corney of Dante Fire & Security said:

**“** *The installation of the system was challenging due to the demands of working in a busy capital city railway station, with minimal impact on the operation of the station of paramount importance to the customer, however the flexibility of the system installed in conjunction with the efforts of the Dante Fire & Security and Network Rail project teams ensured this was achieved.* **”**

The advanced system design, together with compatible products for trouble-free integration, combined to fulfill the demands of a project where, as Network Rail comments, ‘*quality, efficiency, reliability and longevity of the systems were high on Network Rail’s requirements*’.

Renowned for its specialist expertise, Hochiki has gained the reputation as one of the world’s leading manufacturers of high quality commercial and industrial fire detection solutions. Hochiki’s products can be found in numerous prestigious locations including state parliaments, metro systems, airports, banks, commercial centres, hospitals and hotels. All products are approved to UK and International standards.

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## HOCHIKI CHOSEN TO PROTECT LONDON EUROSTAR TERMINUS

The stunning Eurostar terminus at St Pancras International in London bristles with the latest high-performance fire detection and alarm technology, including no fewer than 5,000 Hochiki Europe sensors and sounders.

St Pancras station has been part of Britain's railways heritage for the better part of 150 years. Designed by William Barlow in 1863, it gained instant fame for its "Barlow Shed" train shed arch that spans 73 metres and is over 30 metres high at its apex; at the time, the largest enclosed space in the world. The Grade 1 listed red brick Gothic landmark façade fronting the station was the result of an architectural competition in 1865 and became the Midland Grand Hotel. In 1935, the hotel was closed and the building became railway offices, renamed as the St Pancras Chambers.

The station's restoration, remodelling and extension represents the last building block in the London-to-Paris high speed rail link that really got underway back in 1987 when work started on the Channel Tunnel. It will ultimately be used by over 45 million travellers every year, cutting the journey time from London to Paris to two-and-a -quarter hours on the new 186mph High Speed 1 – until November 2006 know as CTRL – dedicated line.

One of the largest transport hubs in Europe, St Pancras International now has 13 platforms, six of which are around one kilometre long and are devoted to international Eurostar services. The rejuvenated and remodelled station also now incorporates 47 retail outlets and designer boutiques on the undercroft, plus stylish Eurostar arrivals and departure lounges, and a further ten shops on the station platform level. It also boasts a daily farmers' market and, at 90 metres, the longest champagne bar in Europe. However, thanks to careful attention to detail and a sensitive understanding of the architectural importance of the National Heritage building, St Pancras International remains one of the greatest Victorian buildings in London.

### Fast & reliable solution

System design and product selection, installation, testing and commissioning of the new and extensive fire safety solution for the station was undertaken by the Infrastructure and Rail Services division of EMCOR as part of its £310 million contract with Union Railways North for the refurbishment of St Pancras International. The team was headed by Peter Patrick, head of EMCOR's fire division and an expert at undertaking major infrastructure capital projects

such as the Jubilee Line and Russian pipelines who, on this contract, managed four project managers, five commissioning engineers and more than 50 electricians. In total, 5,000 Hochiki ESP – Enhanced System Protocol – analogue addressable devices have been installed throughout the entire site – with the exception of a few small retail outlets – on 14 Kentec Electronics’ Syncro control panels and repeaters. A variety of Hochiki devices were selected, each chosen for its proven ability to combat particular fire risks in the huge multi-activity station. They included optical smoke sensors for back office and main passenger concourse areas; multi-sensors for more challenging environments such as plant rooms and workshops; heat detectors in kitchens and toilets; audio visual devices and base sounder beacons.

They are all automatically re-calibrated every 24 hours by the Syncro panels to compensate for any environmental contamination and to ensure that they continue to operate reliably at the specified sensitivity. Indeed, a key factor cited by Peter Patrick for the decision to opt for the Hochiki / Kentec solution was that Kentec panels are fully compatible with all of Hochiki’s ESP protocol devices, and are configured to share system information and event details on a highly fault-tolerant secure network.

The success of the installation can be judged by the fact that the same solutions have been adopted to protect two other stations on the UK side of the London-to-Paris rail link. These being Ebbsfleet International Station near Dartford in Kent, and Stratford International Station near the City and Canary Wharf that was central to the 2012 Olympic transport strategy, with passenger volumes exceeding 25,000 a day travelling to and from the Olympic Games’ venues.

However, technical performance was not the only consideration with which Peter Patrick had to contend. He comments:

“ *We had to take great care when installing the fire detection equipment, as it was vital to minimise any adverse aesthetic impact on the highly decorative Victorian architecture. He continues: Another major challenge was the need to install the new system in a station that was to remain open and be used daily by thousands of passengers. So the fire safety system had to be fully functional at all times.* ”

#### Error-free detection

The installation is managed in the station’s main control room where, around the clock, a 1.2-metre LCD screen displays the entire station and its fire detection system. This can provide an overview of the whole installation, or drill-down to show various levels of detail; if necessary pinpointing information on any specific device. If, for example, a fire is signalled, the precise location can be viewed on screen, and devices can be interrogated and, if necessary, isolated. The screen can even display the best evacuation routes.

With huge numbers of people converging on the station’s platforms at peak travel times, and the travelling public’s ever-present concerns regarding terrorist activities, ensuring the minimum disruption from false alarms was a paramount consideration. In the event of a confirmed fire, the Syncro system directly controls and monitors the station’s voice evacuation system, which is audible in all of the station’s public areas. However, in places where high levels of ambient noise may make it difficult to hear voice alarms, such as toilets, beacons are also fitted.

Two other key features further minimise any risk of false alarms – data integrity and error detection. Hochiki’s ESP protocol uses a combination of sophisticated algorithms that reduce data corruption. Additionally, with parity and checksum error detection principles applied to every set of data, unwanted external “noise”, such as EMC interference is eliminated.

Hochiki optical smoke sensors are designed for both efficient detection and the virtual elimination of false alarms. The sensor’s chamber incorporates uniquely angled baffles that ensure that internal reflections are not misinterpreted as an alarm condition. Precise positioning of the optics in the chamber enable it to also sense a wider range of fire types, so providing a more balanced response to different types of smoke particles. This is an Hochiki-developed technology that the company calls “high-performance flat response”.

The sensitivity of each device is set to match the prevailing conditions using the Syncro panel’s intuitive Loop Explorer configuration software. Additionally, to allow the most suitable sensing mode to be adopted for a particular environment, the multi-sensors can be set to heat.

#### An Integrated Solution

The main Syncro control panel was designed and engineered to meet High Speed 1 requirements. It incorporates 196 fire zone indicators, and a number of firefighters’ control switches to allow plant to be managed anywhere in the network via Hochiki loop output relays. A repeater panel, with an emergency fire telephone, has been incorporated into the system for use by the fire brigade should an emergency condition occur within the main control suite.

Summing up his thoughts on the St Pancras International project Peter Patrick says:

“ Over the years I have used many different fire detection devices and I can truly say that Hochiki has time and time again proved to be the most reliable and best performing of them all.

He explains in more detail:

*The key elements that I look for in a fire system are reliability, flexibility, good quality control, high performance and false alarm management. The last thing we need on a site such as St Pancras International is unwanted false alarms. With the synergy that has resulted from Hochiki and Kentec Electronics working together, they have delivered superior product performance and hands-on technical support.*

”

Just as Eurostar trains speeding out of the rejuvenated St Pancras International have established Britain's credentials in world-class high speed rail travel, so too has a new European benchmark for railway station fire safety been established.

So, the final words go to Peter Patrick:

“ When implementing a life protection system, I will not make any compromises. A robust and reliable system is what I wanted, and that is exactly what has been delivered. ”

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## HISTORIC HELSINKI COURTHOUSE PROTECTED BY HOCHIKI EUROPE

**Historic Helsinki Courthouse Protected by Hochiki Europe**  
An impressive building of great historical significance to the Finnish capital, Helsinki, underwent a complete renovation including the conversion of a floor area of about 25,000 square metres to house the Helsinki District Court & Prosecuting Authority, containing 30 courtrooms and offices for about 500 employees.

To guarantee security and operational safety, a comprehensive fire alarm system comprising Hochiki sensors was installed in the building, implemented by Oy Hedpro Ab Security (Hedengren Group) through their local retail dealer Tekmanni Oy, Espoo.

Special features of this fire alarm system included sensors sensitive to smoke and combustion gas installed in the ventilation ducts in the cell department. In the first phase, eight Prodex central fire alarm units and approximately 2,500 Hochiki heat and smoke sensors, duct and line sensors, base sounders and manual call points were installed. In the next phase, four networked Prodex fire alarm central units and 1,500 Hochiki sensors were added.

The complete installation comprised 4,000 Hochiki sensors and twelve Prodex-500 central fire alarm units, networked into one integrated system by the Prodex Expander. Operation and maintenance of the central units is performed by a general operating panel, separate MUP operating panels containing graphics display, or remote programming from the control room.

In addition to ordinary fire alarm transmissions to the fire brigade, the event data (false, pre-alarms and fire alarms) is sent to guards' and doormen's GSM telephones via protocol adapter Pronode and Nokia-30 transmitter. SMS transmissions can be arranged according to fire groups and sent to 16 different mobile phone numbers. In an alarm situation, the Prodex fire alarm system also controls the PA system giving instructions to people in the building.

The specification of Hochiki for this prestigious project is due to the ideal combination of quality and reliability featured by Hochiki's ESP fire products, and Hochiki's ESP protocol that also ensures lowest cost of maintenance. According to the specifiers, Hochiki satisfied their commitment to high quality products that provide the best possible life protection for staff and public in the Courthouse.



## HIGH STANDARD FOR THE HIGH COURT

The Court of Appeal in Casablanca is one of the top divisions of Morocco's judicial system, with over 200 staff members working across four storeys. Because of the high profile nature of the building and its occupants, it is essential that all life safety systems are of a superior quality, while simultaneously complying with strict regulations.

When the need to replace the existing fire detection solutions arose, Marrakech-based safety systems retailer S.A.S. Equipment recommended the use of Hochiki Europe products because of their proven reliability.

S.A.S. Equipment was able to demonstrate that Hochiki Europe's products complied with the project requirements and necessary building regulations. This allowed for the installation of a Hochiki Europe system comprising three analogue addressable panels controlling a total of 234 ALN-EN photoelectric smoke sensors.

Part of Hochiki Europe's Enhanced System Protocol (ESP) range, these sensors help to provide a system that is both secure and expandable; manufactured to the highest international standards, offering life safety products and systems of incomparable reliability. Other products installed as part of the project include 40 manual call points 18 conventional sounder beacons.

Soufiane Benhadda, Sales Director at S.A.S. Equipment, said:

“As part of this project, Elec Omar was keen to use CMSI products, however, Hochiki Europe products can be used as an equivalent. When we demonstrated that Hochiki Europe products offered the same functional capability as CMSI at an improved specification, Elec Omar was happily persuaded.”

Hochiki Europe, explained:

“Our products boast exceptional safety standards and comply with different regulations across Europe. Thanks to our reliable, state-of-the-art life safety systems, users of the Court of Appeal are safe in the knowledge that they are protected in the event of a fire.”



## HOCHIKI MIDDLE EAST HELPS ROYAL OMAN POLICE MAINTAIN ORDER

The Royal Oman Police (ROP) is the main law and order agency in Oman. The concept of a modern police force is relatively new to Oman, around 30 years ago no internal security force existed. Now the ROP are regarded as one of the best in the region.

In 2018, a new police station was built in the growing desert town of Marmul. The station is located within the Petroleum Development Camp which is the leading oil and gas exploration & production company in Oman. The Marmul police station is spread across nine buildings and can accommodate in the region of 200 people; it was therefore vital to install an efficient and reliable fire detection solution.

Project management company Dolphin Trading & Investment L.L.C. were enlisted to oversee the build, and they hired fire detection specialists, Be One Safety, to design and install the new fire detection system.

Product quality was high on the specification; they required a system with long term reliability and superior performance; Be One Safety therefore decided that Hochiki would be able to provide the perfect solution.

Hochiki devices have been optimised to reduce false alarms, but also provide a quick response in the event of a real fire. The devices are renowned for being robust, reliable and having an extremely long life span; making them a very cost-effective solution. For this reason, Hochiki devices have been first choice for many prestigious buildings around the world.

Be One Safety installed nine EN 54 approved fire panels, one in each of the nine buildings, networked together with over 700 Hochiki analogue addressable sensors.

Due to the complexity of the project, the onsite engineers relied heavily upon assistance from the regional Hochiki technical support team at Hochiki Middle East FZE. This high-quality technical support is another reason why distributors repeatedly place their trust in the Hochiki brand.

The Marmul Police Station was completed and handed over successfully in 2018. Since then, Fire Protection specialists Proline Safety, Security & Gas have taken over all ROP projects and have been working alongside Hochiki Middle East on an EN system for Mirbat Police Station and a UL system for Al Awabi Police Station.



## SUGAR PUFFS MANUFACTURER GOES MONSTER MAD FOR HOCHIKI EUROPE

As one of the mainstays of the UK breakfast cereal market, few will be unfamiliar with Sugar Puffs. Immensely popular for nearly 60 years, since the 1970s the Honey Monster has been at the forefront of a number of memorable advertising campaigns that have seen him working with people as diverse as Boyzone, Kevin Keegan and 'punk poet' John Cooper Clarke. In 1982 he even got to meet Prince Charles when he took a tour of the factory at Southall, Middlesex.

Previously owned by Quaker Oats, in 2006 the Sugar Puffs brand was acquired by Honey Monster Foods. Still based at the same site, the company now also manufactures a number of other products including Honey Waffles, Choco Puffs, Choco Waffles and Monster Puff bars and is part of the Raisio Group.

Within this busy production environment the safety of those working there is paramount, which is why a fire detection system is so important. Unfortunately, for Honey Monster Foods the problems of unwanted alarms had become untenable and John Higgins, the company's Project Engineering Manager, explains:

“ Things had got to a point where an unwanted alarm was a weekly occurrence. Needless to say, this was highly disruptive as it required a full evacuation of the premises and a shut down of the production plant, all of which was a waste of valuable time and money. ”

John Higgins contacted High Wycombe based Surefire Services, one of the UK's leading specialists in the configuration of fire detection solutions for industry and commerce, to see what could be done to address the problem. With over 30 years of industry experience, the company uses its extensive knowledge of leading edge technology to support its customers with expertly specified and installed systems.

Marcus Kemp, the company's Services Director, says:

*“ We had previously worked with Honey Monster Foods on the installation of a water mist system in one part of its premises, so we were already familiar with the issues that John and his team were having. After carrying out a full site survey and assessment of the existing closed protocol system, we decided that due to its age it was uneconomical to try to repair it. We therefore recommended replacing it with an open protocol system from Hochiki Europe. ”*

Surefire has enjoyed a relationship with Hochiki Europe that stretches back in excess of 20 years. Asked to explain the reasons behind this longevity, Kemp replies:

*“ First and foremost it would have to be the proven reliability of its diverse range of products. We know that whatever application we are working in, we will be able to access a suitable solution that is backed up with unrivalled levels of service and support – elements that make our lives easier. I also like the fact that the company does not accept product failures. While some other companies think that anything up to a three per cent detector failure rate is acceptable, Hochiki Europe doesn't. ”*

One of the reasons that Honey Monster Foods had experienced so many unwanted alarms was due to water entering the call points during the regular cleaning of the production facility. In order to prevent this type of problem reoccurring Surefire recommended the use of 70 HCP-W(SCI) weatherproof call points, which could offer the requisite level of ingress protection (IP).

*“ A product's IP rating consists of the letters IP followed by two digits, comments Paul Adams, Hochiki Europe's Marketing Manager. It classifies the degrees of protection provided against the intrusion of solid objects, dust, accidental contact, and water in electrical enclosures. The higher the number, the higher the protection offered. ”*

The IP rating of the HCP-E is IP67 (highest possible is IP68). IP67 means that the product is protected against the effects of being immersed in water and it is also dust tight.

The new system is based around Hochiki Europe's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP), a robust total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems that provides the flexibility to accommodate simple addressable systems, as well as integrated building management and complex life safety systems.

As well as the weatherproof call points, a number of smoke sensors were also configured around a Kentec Electronics control panel.

Marcus Kemp says:

*“ We installed a number of optical smoke sensors that feature Hochiki Europe's pioneering High Performance Chamber Technology. This design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. It can be easily removed or replaced for cleaning which is something that is particularly useful in a food manufacturing environment. ”*

To minimise the amount of disruption caused by the installation of the new equipment, Surefire deployed a team, who completed the work in just five days. This involved keeping the original control panels live while the new ones were installed, so that complete protection could be ensured at all times.

The installation was completed on time to the exact specification required and no unwanted alarms have since been reported.

Honey Monster Foods' John Higgins, concludes:

*“ The new fire detection system has made a tangible difference to the operation of the building and we are all benefiting from the lack of disruption to our working days. I'm confident that we have the best possible life safety solution in place and we have commissioned Surefire to extend the system into other areas of the building. ”*

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE KEEPS TRACK OF FIRE DETECTION FOR MICHELIN IN SERBIA

Currently one of the two largest tyre manufacturers in the world, Michelin has come a long way since two French brothers, Édouard and André Michelin, formed the company in 1888. Having continually innovated and pushed the boundaries of tyre technology, its products are now found on vehicles ranging from family hatchbacks to Formula One racing cars, and were even used on the NASA space shuttle.

As a multinational organisation, Michelin has operations throughout the globe and in mid-December 2009 it became the sole owner of the Tigar Tyres car tyre factory in Pirot, Serbia. In 2010 Michelin announced that it would invest €10m in Serbia over the next 18 months, including a new logistics centre that has created over 100 new jobs, and since then it has doubled production at the Pirot factory to 12 million tyres annually.

Work on the logistics centre began five years ago and was finally completed in 2011. To protect those working in this complex of buildings, Michelin knew that it would need to have a rigorous life safety infrastructure in place. To achieve this objective, the company called on the services of leading fire detection system design and installation expert, Quadel, to specify a suitable solution.

After conducting a site survey Dejan Ciric, Quadel's Technical Manager, had no hesitation in recommending the installation of a fire detection system from Hochiki Europe. He explains:

“ Quadel was founded in Nis in 1992 and since then we have built an enviable reputation for the specification and installation of the highest quality life safety systems. We first began working with Hochiki in 1996 and have enjoyed a close working relationship by installing their products in a variety of locations in Serbia. It was obvious that only their products would offer the requisite level of performance required for this project.

”

The Michelin logistics centre utilises an addressable fire detection system based around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP).

Paul Adams, Hochiki's Marketing Manager, comments:

“ *ESP is a robust total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to integrated building management and safety systems. It is a robust system and is perfect for use in harsh and hazardous environments such as the Michelin site.* ”

The system is based around nine addressable control panels and a number of devices that are linked via a local area network (LAN) and connected to an off-site remote monitoring centre. Due to the large quantities of smoke and dust particles created in the production and storage of tyres, as well as the high ceilings in the buildings, the team from Quadel decided to use Hochiki's ESP FIREbeam reflective beam smoke detectors, which feature advanced motorised technology allowing them to self-align to the centre of the reflector when commissioning.

Dejan Ciric explains:

“ *Using beam detection allows us to cost effectively cover a large area. Once commissioned the Hochiki detector continually monitors alignment and will automatically realign itself back to the centre of the reflector if any movement occurs. The detector comes with a separate controller unit that allows our engineers to commission, monitor and maintain from ground level.* ”

Even with this automatic alignment technology, regular maintenance is crucial to a fire detector's correct operation and the physical removal of dust and dirt will eventually become necessary. The design of Hochiki's detectors means that it is possible to simply and quickly dismantle the detector and clean or replace it on site.

Other Hochiki products used included base sounder beacons, multi-heat sensors and optical smoke detectors, which feature Hochiki's unique High Performance Chamber Technology. This minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires, resulting in a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. This has enormous benefits for Michelin as the costs associated with evacuation of personnel and subsequent loss of production are immense and must be avoided.

The development of the state-of-the-art logistics centre represents a massive investment for Michelin in this region and the company was determined to use best in class solutions throughout. Reliable and high performance fire detection is a fundamental requirement for a facility of this kind and Michelin is confident that this is provided by the system from Hochiki.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE PROVIDES LIFE SAFETY FOR PORCELAIN MANUFACTURER

One of Europe's leading producers of fine porcelain is now protected by a range of innovative new life-safety solutions from Hochiki Europe.

To protect the 340 people who work at Porcelanas da Costa Verde SA (Costa Verde) porcelain manufacturing facility in North West Portugal, the porcelain producer required the quick installation of enhanced automatic fire detection devices and energy-efficient emergency lighting. Hochiki Europe products were chosen due to the company's commitment to environmental responsibility and product innovation.

As part of the project a new FIREscape emergency lighting (EL) system was installed, enabling Costa Verde to reduce maintenance costs, and decrease energy consumption.

FIREscape is an environmentally friendly EL system that is simple to install and requires little maintenance or manual testing. When compared to traditional lighting, a FIREscape system uses less than 5 per cent electricity, cutting costs significantly for the end user.

In addition to FIREscape, Hochiki Europe's hybrid wireless fire detection system, FIREwave was also specified for the ceramics factory. The FIREwave range of products do not require cabling and run off standard lithium batteries, making them more economical and environmentally friendly than traditional detection units.

The products installed at the site in Costa Verde comply with all applicable international standards as well as Portuguese regulations, such as the Security Technical Regulation Fire in Buildings, Decree No. 1532/2008. As periodic checks are also being carried out on-site by installers, Costa Verde is able to ensure that all products are being adequately maintained.

A spokesperson from Costa Verde said:

“  
*We’re already seeing the benefits of our new safety devices from Hochiki Europe, which have reduced our energy consumption and carbon emissions.*  
”

Hochiki Europe commented:

“  
*It’s fantastic to see Costa Verde benefiting both financially and environmentally through the installation of our FIREscape and FIREwave systems. Following the recent climate conference in Paris, corporate environmental responsibility is at the top of the agenda for businesses in Europe.*  
”

The systems were installed by Portuguese electrical contractors, Unifogo. A spokesperson from the company commented:

“  
*Hochiki Europe’s devices were ideally suited for this large-scale contract. The fact that the FIREwave systems don’t require complex cabling and are easy to install allowed us to complete the works ahead of schedule.*  
”

The FIREscape solution considers the useful life of the entire emergency lighting system, from manufacture and installation, right through to recycling. The system is produced from fully recyclable materials, and incorporates LED technology that reduces its impact on the environment to an absolute minimum.

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE REVS UP FIRE SAFETY FOR MOTORCYCLE FACTORY

The Yamaha motorcycle factory in Chennai, India, is protecting its employees with a low maintenance, high performance fire alarm system, provided by Hochiki Europe.

With a population of 6,000 workers in eight large buildings spread across a vast 147,450m<sup>2</sup> site, Yamaha's building designers faced a challenge when developing a centralised fire safety and emergency lighting network. The distance between the buildings and the number of devices needed made it impossible to use a single control panel for the entire plant. At the same time, installing a separate control panel in each structure would be expensive and make it more difficult to look after long term. The company had no doubt that a system from Hochiki Europe was the ideal solution.

“ With such a large site and so many workers, we needed a life safety solution that could be easily monitored from a remote location to help us pinpoint and correct potential performance issues as quickly and efficiently as possible, explained a spokesperson, at Yamaha Chennai. The final system had to help us centralise control, while also minimising disruption due to false alarms.

”

Technical experts from Hochiki Europe worked closely with life safety installers, Bell Automation, and Yamaha's designers to develop an effective solution that could be easily integrated into their computer aided design (CAD) models. Hochiki Europe recommended dividing the site's buildings into four separate groups, each connected to a centralised control panel – provided by the manufacturer. This would overcome the challenge presented by the site's complexity, while simplifying maintenance and monitoring procedures.

Photoelectric Smoke Sensors from Hochiki Europe were selected for use in all buildings across the site. Offering high-precision chamber technology, rather than standard ionisation sensors, the solution has a greater particle sensor threshold than traditional products, minimising the risk of false alarms.

Hochiki Europe's Intrinsically Safe Photoelectric Smoke Detectors were selected for the site's paint store area. These detectors have been specially designed to operate on a reduced current and have been third-party approved for use in hazardous areas. They are installed in conjunction with a barrier, which reduces the energy entering the hazardous zone and their components are encapsulated in a non-conductive material, negating the chance of sparking and igniting a flammable atmosphere.

In the canteen kitchen, Hochiki Europe recommended the installation of its Water-Proof Heat Detectors. Featuring a variable Fixed Temperature heat element, these sensors are able to overcome the issue of excessive smoke from cooking food. Their water-proof casing means that they are able to withstand the humidity of the kitchen, increasing durability and cutting maintenance needs. Weather-Proof Sounders and Weather-Proof Manual Call Points were chosen for external assembly areas.

The safety products installed in each building were linked to the relevant network each controlled by one of four centralised control panels provided by Hochiki Europe, meeting the requirement for streamlined monitoring.

Alok Chaturvedi, Director of Bell Automation, added:

*“ Thanks to Hochiki Europe's innovative open Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP), all of the equipment was compatible with the network loop modelled by Yamaha's designers. This really simplified the installation process and enabled us to complete the work in just four months, well within the company's strict deadline. ”*

Rohit Harjani, Country Manager for India at Hochiki Europe, concluded:

*“ The Yamaha Chennai site is complex. It has many buildings, each housing hundreds of workers every day. With this in mind, it is vital that the final life safety system was both reliable and effective with minimal maintenance needs to reduce disruption to the business of the plant. ”*

*The technologies recommended offered the high performance required combined with compatibility to a wider safety network. These streamlined maintenance and monitoring needs for the company, saving it time and money, while enabling workers to do their jobs in a safe environment. ”*

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## HOCHIKI EUROPE PROTECTS PETROCHEMICAL ENVIRONMENTS IN GHANA

Leading manufacturer of life safety solutions, Hochiki Europe, has supported the construction of a new petrochemical storage and distribution facility in Ghana, by supplying a range of innovative fire detection and alarm equipment.

Called the New Petroleum Products Storage and Distribution Terminal, the facility is spread across an area of more than 113,000m<sup>2</sup> in the heart of the port city of Tema. Eight buildings on the site all required the highest possible standard of life safety protection.

Oil and gas facilities can be particularly challenging environments when it comes to specifying life safety systems. The presence of hazardous and potentially volatile materials, like petrochemicals requires an even closer focus on safety considerations. In addition, higher than usual levels of smoke, dust and other particulates in the atmosphere can pose a challenge for accurate fire detection - resulting in a need for highly intelligent detection devices.

Metron Energy Applications, a Greek-based provider of oil and gas industry construction solutions, led the development of the Tema facility. The firm tasked fire safety solutions supplier, Formula Techniki, with delivering a detection system that met the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) National Fire Alarm and Signalling Code. Also known as NFPA 72, this internationally recognised US standard includes requirements specific to the fire safety risks found in chemical facilities.

It was also essential that any products installed as part of the fire detection system were intelligent, and would allow the facilities managers to quickly identify hazards in order to help them take appropriate action to protect the building and its occupants.

### Finding the right solution

Formula Techniki specified a number of products from Hochiki Europe's Safety Integrity Level (SIL) range. SIL is a standard that has been widely adopted by the global oil and gas industry, and provides targets around the reliability and performance of the safety systems used to protect such hazardous environments. All of Hochiki's SIL Approved range provides SIL Level 2 protection.

A total of 18 SIL approved wall sounders and 45 SIL approved photoelectric smoke sensors were installed across the storage facility. These sensors feature variable sensitivity levels, allowing the facilities managers to increase or decrease the sensor threshold, depending on the surrounding operating environment. This improves the so-called “signal-to-noise” ratio, meaning the sensors can be set to ensure they are not triggered by the background “noise” caused by the constant presence of airborne material normally found in the vicinity, but only by the unique “signals” resulting from the release of additional particles generated by a fire. In doing so, it helps reduce the risk of a false alarm.

19 SIL approved addressable weatherproof manual call points were also installed throughout the site. These allow building occupants to manually sound the alarm in the event of a fire or life safety incident, further safeguarding against a system failure. They have been specially designed and approved for use in some of the most demanding applications, including oil platforms and marine environments. Featuring integral short-circuit isolators to ensure loop performance, they also offer rapid response communications to virtually eliminate the risk of false alarms.

Both the photoelectric sensors and the weatherproof manual call points installed at the facility are compatible with Hochiki Europe’s ESP open protocol, in line with Metron Energy Application’s need for a flexible and intelligent fire and life safety solution.

#### Keeping occupants safe

The life safety equipment at Tema has now been installed, and the construction of the new facility is now complete. As a result of Hochiki Europe’s equipment, the site now has a fire safety system capable of meeting the strict requirements of such a hazardous environment.

Speaking about the project, Angelos Angelikas, Technical Manager at Formula Techniki, noted:

“*In any hazardous environment, there is a whole raft of fire safety considerations that need to be taken into account.*

*To match the increased risks faced by building occupants in these hazardous locations, we needed to use products globally-recognised for their high quality and enhanced performance. With a dedicated range of SIL products and approvals from the Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB), Hochiki Europe was the obvious choice.*

Hochiki Europe added:

“*As a manufacturer that supplies products for use all over the world, it’s critical that we meet the highest standards when it comes to life safety accreditations and legislation.*

*Our presence across Europe, the Middle East and Africa further compliments our commitment to manufacturing high-quality products, as we’re able to provide globally-recognised solutions in some of the most hazardous applications. This project is no exception, and I’m pleased we have been able to supply a fit-for-purpose solution for this challenging environment, helping to ensure optimum protection for the people that will one day be working across the site.*

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## THE BEST OF CARE - MALTESE CARE HOME PROVIDER INSTALLS PIONEERING FIRE DETECTION FROM HOCHIKI

The CareMalta Group is Malta's largest private care provider and operates six facilities across the island. The company employs a team of over 500 highly qualified personnel who are focused on providing quality care services and facilities management.

In 1993 CareMalta was the first private company in Malta to invest in developing a privately owned facility for the elderly and its latest development is Roseville, which has beautiful surroundings, state-of-the-art residential facilities, recreational areas and a peaceful garden designed to offer maximum comfort to its residents.

When carrying out renovation work at Roseville, CareMalta wanted the very best fire detection system to be installed in order to offer an unsurpassed level of protection for those working and living there.

Malta's leading fire detection installation specialist, Firetech, was invited to tender for, and was subsequently awarded, the contract to install Roseville's fire detection system by the project's M&E contractor. The company was commissioned to install a BS5389 compliant category L1 addressable fire detection system.

Firetech's Managing Director, Brian Vassallo, had no hesitation in recommending the installation of Hochiki Europe's products throughout. He said:

“ Firetech has been an installer of Hochiki's fire detection systems for 19 years and due to their extensive range, proven reliability and excellent support service, we knew that they would act as a one-stop-shop for all Roseville's fire detection product requirements. ”

”

Roseville is a four storey, early 20<sup>th</sup> century house and is one of Malta's few Art Nouveau villas. This unique architectural gem, with floral sculpted windows surrounded by painted motifs is architecturally stunning. In order to maintain the aesthetic integrity of the building, the fire rated cables were installed in a way to make them as discreet as possible during the first fix. Firetech installed cables between the bricks and any other visible cables were hidden in stone coloured trunking. Where possible, false ceilings were also created which could house the cables and keep them out of sight.

To enhance the safety of the building Firetech integrated Roseville's heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system into the control panel. Authorised staff can now control the closure of all fire doors and shut off the air conditioning system to reduce the spread of fire, should the need arise.

A wide variety of Hochiki products were installed including heat sensors, mains relay controllers, call points, sounders and sensor bases. Over 220 of Hochiki's innovative ALG-EN optical smoke sensors were also installed which feature the company's High Performance Chamber Technology. By redesigning the internal optical angle and chamber structure within the photoelectric smoke detector, Hochiki's chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires.

The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types, helping to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. Chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types, helping to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms.

All of the installed sounders are fitted with flashing beacons which are activated first in the event of an alarm condition. This gives staff a specified amount of time to investigate the alarm after which the beacons can be deactivated or the sounder activated to initiate an evacuation of the premises. The sounders themselves have been limited in order to ensure that the alarms are heard but do not cause unnecessary distress.

Unwanted alarms are a serious problem for any premises but for care homes they are particularly problematic because of the logistics involved in getting infirm and disabled people to safety.

Brian Vassallo comments:

*“ To minimise the possibility of an unwanted alarm we used Hochiki's inbuilt product technology to reduce alarm sensitivity thresholds in certain areas of Roseville such as the corridors. We also programmed the system so that the different sensitivity conditions for day and night are taken into account. ”*

Firetech also had to make sure that the fire detection system met the requirements stipulated in The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), which makes it unlawful for building owners and service providers to treat disabled people less favourably for a reason related to their disability. In practice, this means that Roseville's call points can be easily reached and identified and that the fire detection system is able to guide residents of all abilities to safety.

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## NURSING HOME OPTS FOR HOCHIKI PROTECTION

Hochiki fire detection and alarm equipment has been installed throughout the new purpose-built 64-bedroom Hatchmoor Nursing Home in Great Torrington, North Devon.

It is currently home to approximately 50 residents, who are protected by Hochiki's leading-edge ESP or Enhanced System Protocol analogue addressable sensors, call points and sounders.

The design, installation and commissioning of the system was undertaken by Barnstable-based Challenge Alarm Services, which has also been entrusted with the installation's ongoing maintenance. The company, which is accredited to BAFE (British Approvals for Fire Equipment) SP203 for the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of fire detection, alarm and suppression systems, recommended Hochiki to Hatchmoor's Owner, Solomon Singh, because of the reliability of its devices.

Managing Director, Justin Dennis says:

“ We have never had an Hochiki device failure on any of the projects where they have been installed. The company's equipment has never caused a false alarm, which is particularly important in a building that is home to elderly and potentially easily confused or panicked residents. ”

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## HOCHIKI SAFEGUARDS NATIONAL TRUST AT BLICKLING AND FELBRIGG HALL

The National Trust is custodian of more than 250 historic properties attracting over 50 million visitors a year. In consequence, such a vast national heritage imposes immense responsibilities for both public safety and the protection and preservation of the precious fabric of ancient buildings.

In East Anglia, the Trust's Blickling Hall and Felbrigg Hall are just two of many UK heritage sites protected by Hochiki's ESP (Enhanced System Protocol) and ESP fire detection products in applications where safety and aesthetic considerations are of paramount importance.

Both properties near Norwich are country houses on a grand scale, dating from the 17th Century, and a particular requirement of the National Trust's territorial fire officer was for discreet, low-profile detectors with a proven track record for error-free performance.

Hochiki answered this need with their ESP fire products range which, together with their ESP protocol, is recognised internationally for overcoming the problem of false alarms through the combination of quality and reliability, while also ensuring the lowest cost of maintenance.

Both Blickling and Felbrigg are protected by BS5839-1-compliant Fire Detection and Alarm Systems installed by Defensor Fire Detection Limited and, in total, the systems comprise over 600 Hochiki ESP analogue addressable devices, including over 400 photoelectric smoke sensors (these sensors feature Hochiki's unique 'High Performance Optical Technology' which allows the sensor threshold level to be increased, thus extending sensitivity to a much wider range of combustible materials).

The reliability of these systems is synonymous with the Hochiki brand that includes the ESP digital communications protocol, incorporating ARM capability (Alarm Reduction Management), which, in conjunction with the Advanced MX4808 control panels, significantly minimises the potential for false or unwanted alarms.

According to the specifiers, their choice of Hochiki satisfied their commitment to high quality products that provide the best possible life protection for staff and public in these important historic buildings.



## PROTECTING BRITISH HISTORY: HOCHIKI EUROPE SAFEGUARDS MAGNA CARTA AT LINCOLN CASTLE

As part of a £22 million restoration of Lincoln Castle, Hochiki Europe has been drafted in by Reflex Systems to provide the fire safety system that will guard the castle and its precious consignment – one of only four surviving, original 1215 Magna Carta.

The Lincolnshire County Council site - which includes the 947 year old castle, perimeter wall and Victorian prison, as well as the new David P J Ross Magna Carta Vault - is the only location worldwide where the Magna Carta and its sister document, the Charter of the Forest (1217), can be viewed together. Four years of painstaking restoration has now been completed, ahead of Magna Carta's 800th anniversary in June 2015.

To ensure the best possible protection for Lincoln Castle, the Council called upon security and fire systems specialist, Reflex Systems, to design commission and supply a new, integrated fire safety system. Given a challenging brief – to provide high level fire security in an architecturally sensitive environment – John Pye, MD at Reflex Systems, turned to leading fire safety solutions provider, Hochiki Europe.

“ Due to the complex nature of the buildings, there were a number of restrictions and requirements set out by English Heritage. We selected Hochiki Europe for its innovative, open Enhanced Systems protocol (ESP) that would allow Lincoln Castle to be future-proofed, explained John.

The versatility of the ESP system meant we could mix and match Hochiki Europe products with components from other suppliers – ultimately this flexibility will help the Council reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

”

Jayne Griffiths, Regional Sales Manager, at Hochiki Europe continued:

“*Historical buildings, such as Lincoln Castle, often come with the challenge of balancing the need for top of the range fire safety solutions with preserving the aesthetics of the building, so that the guest experience is conserved. Choosing products that have minimal wiring requirements is one way to address the approach, and the use of our FIREbeam system in the sites’ larger spaces has helped to achieve this.*”

FIREbeam is a highly specialised, reflective beam smoke detector which is able to detect smoke scattered over wide areas thanks to the use of infra-red light beams; measuring their obscuration by smoke particles to identify any fire before it can spread. This system not only reduces the amount of cabling required but, thanks to its advanced motorised technology, means that should any building movement occur, the detectors will automatically realign ensuring the system is always providing optimal detection.

To further reduce the amount of cabling required on-site, and minimise the disruption to the fabric of the historical buildings, hybrid wireless fire detection products were installed. Combining a wired translator unit with battery operated detectors, the hybrid system helped to overcome some of the architectural challenges of the buildings as the individual components did not need to be wired together.



In addition, it was vital that the products installed blended with the background.

“*As well as hiding wiring and our equipment during the installation, we also had to make sure the rest of the system was sensitive to the environment, added John.*

*In this case, that included spray painting the heat and smoke detectors in the Magna Carta Vault and prison so that they would disappear against the walls.*”

Mary Powell, Programme Manager at Lincoln Castle, concluded:

“*The restoration marks a huge investment for Lincoln Castle, and ensuring that we had the very best in fire protection was a key consideration to securing its future. We’re confident that the Hochiki Europe solution specified by Reflex Systems will do just that; safeguarding our site for individuals and families to enjoy for years to come.*”

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## PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL SINGS THE PRAISES OF ITS HOCHIKI EUROPE LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM

With a history dating back over 1,350 years Peterborough Cathedral is one of the UK's top landmarks and one of the finest Norman buildings in Europe today. The cathedral is an amalgam of archaeological, architectural, cultural, musical and artistic treasures that visitors from all over the world come to discover and enjoy.

Within its rich and varied history fire has, unfortunately, been a recurring theme, dating back to 1116 when an accidental blaze destroyed large parts of the building and its contents. It was rebuilt in its present form between 1118 and 1238 and became the Cathedral of the new Diocese of Peterborough in 1541. More recently, in 2001 it experienced another fire – believed

to have been started deliberately – in plastic chairs stored in the North Choir Aisle. It was spotted by one of the vergers, which led to a swift response by emergency services, however, the oily smoke given off was particularly damaging, coating much of the building with a sticky black layer.

Not surprisingly, due to a combination of precious artefacts and the high numbers of worshippers and other visitors that use the building on a daily basis, a fire detection system is a key part of its infrastructure. It means that in the event of another fire people and property will be kept as safe as possible thanks to an early warning.

In late 2011 Peterborough Cathedral recognised that its fire detection system was coming towards the end of its life and an increasing number of highly disruptive unwanted alarms made the installation of a new one an urgent requirement. Having had its services recommended by one of the other companies working at the Cathedral, Walsall based fire and security solutions specialist, Lyrico Systems, was invited to visit and outline its recommendations as part of a competitive tender.

Lyrico Systems has developed an enviable reputation for its expertise and the quality of its work.

Mike Palmer, the company's Managing Director, explains:

“ *It was clear that the previous system needed replacing and, given the size and scale of the area that needed to be covered, we knew that only state-of-the-art technology could ensure the requisite level of protection. As a result, our proposal centred on the installation of a Hochiki Europe addressable fire detection system which would offer Peterborough Cathedral excellent reliability and performance.* ”

Lyrico Systems was awarded the contract in early 2012 and began work in the April. The fire detection system is based around the innovative Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) and Jayne Griffiths, Hochiki Europe's Regional Sales Manager, comments:

“ *ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to building management and other safety systems. It is also highly robust and therefore perfectly suited for Peterborough Cathedral, as maximum reliability and minimum disruption from unwanted alarms are essential.* ”

The system comprises a wide variety of Hochiki Europe devices, including the YBO-R/3 mounting base, which is coloured red for easy identification and designed specifically for use with the company's range of wall sounders – such as the CHQ-WS2 wall sounder and the CHQ-WSB wall sounder beacon – which were used extensively throughout.

These were complemented by the use of optical smoke sensors that feature High Performance Chamber Technology. This minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a high performance device that is incredibly responsive and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. In addition, Lyrico Systems specified a number of CHQ-POM powered-output modules and CHQ-AB loop powered addressable beacons.

Although there were some problems accessing and utilising the existing cabling, the ease of installation and flexibility offered by Hochiki Europe's products helped ensure that the project was completed on time.

Mike Palmer comments:

“ *The ability to use a standard YBN-R/3 base unit offered us significant time and cost savings. However, while fast installation is obviously a good thing, with Hochiki Europe it's also backed up with excellent levels of reliability.* ”

Work was completed in June 2012 and the system has since lived up to all expectations, with no unwanted alarms reported.

Richard Cattle, Assistant to the Dean and Head of Fundraising for Peterborough Cathedral concludes:

“ *Its somewhat troubled history is part of what gives our Cathedral such a rich and wonderful heritage, as well as its blend of diverse and interesting architecture. We obviously want to protect it so that many more people can experience this fantastic building and I'm confident that our new Hochiki fire detection system will ensure they remain safe while they do so.* ”

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## HOCHIKI PROTECTING AND PRESERVING HISTORY AT BULGARIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY

Sofia has been the home of the Bulgarian National Library since 1881. In that time, the building and its historic contents have become treasures with significant national importance. Earlier this year, leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki Europe, was appointed to protect these relics and preserve this slice of Bulgarian History.

Sofia has been the home of the Bulgarian National Library since 1881. In that time, the building and its historic contents have become treasures with significant national importance. Earlier this year, leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki Europe, was appointed to protect these relics and preserve this slice of Bulgarian History.

The library was first founded in 1878 by Mikhail Bobotniv, a teacher and secretary of the City Council in Sofia, as a cultural and educational resource for the city's residents. In 1944, a bombing raid during WW2 destroyed the library, and it was almost ten years later that it reopened in 1953, under the new name "Vasil Kolarov". Now, it is known as St. Cyril and Methodius, named after the creators of the ancient Glagolitic alphabet.

Sectron Ltd, a security solutions provider based in Sofia, was tasked with replacing the library's twenty-year-old life safety system which was no longer fit for purpose.

Historic buildings often pose a challenge when it comes to specifying life safety solutions, and for the Bulgarian National Library, this was no exception. Project leaders, Sectron Ltd, recognised that it was essential that the installation of a life safety system could offer enhanced performance and reliability without compromising the aesthetics of the building. It was also necessary that the new system had the functionality to network a range of devices, as multiple solutions were required for this installation.

Sectron's safety systems experts specified Hochiki Europe's hybrid, wireless fire detection range, FIREwave. FIREwave uses the latest radio technology to provide a simple yet effective fire detection solution, with minimal disruption to the fabric of a building. The FIREwave products integrated seamlessly with the cabled fire system, as they too operate on Hochiki Europe's Enhanced Safety Protocol (ESP). This allowed Sectron more choice when it came to selecting the appropriate field device for the environment.

Georgi Kolev, Product Manager at Sectron noted:

*“The Bulgarian National Library is a jewel in the crown of our capital city. When specifying a new life safety system for this project, we had to address a number of different challenges, from the age and structure of the building, to the need for simple installation and ongoing maintenance.*

*Working closely with our design and engineering team, Hochiki Europe was able to recommend and supply a range of solutions to meet these specific project requirements. This means our national relics are now protected with the highest standards of life safety equipment.*

”

Petia Simeonova, Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, added:

*“FIREwave is one of our most flexible product ranges when it comes to architecturally-challenging installations. By removing the need for hard-wired cabling in our life safety systems, we're able to provide a solution that is ideal for a wide range of buildings, from busy hotels to heritage buildings like the Bulgarian National Library.*

*The new installation looks fantastic and I'm delighted that we were able to support in a project of such national importance.*

”

The installation at Bulgaria National Library was completed in June 2018.

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# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information visit our sector pages on the Hochiki Europe website by scanning the QR codes below, or to view our case studies online visit: [www.hochikieurope.com/case-studies](http://www.hochikieurope.com/case-studies)



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## DISCLAIMER

All project information and quotes presented within this portfolio were correct and authorised at the time of the original project promotion. Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, it is not warranted or represented by Hochiki Europe (UK) Ltd. to be a complete and up-to-date description of projects or their current status.

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