

# Cooling the home of cricket

Contractor CER Installations installed both air conditioning and refrigeration systems at Lord's, working through the night to minimise disruption to the customer.

**Lord's, the home of cricket, is now considerably cooler thanks to air conditioning and refrigeration contractor CER Installations.**

With the help of FG Eurofred and Fujitsu distributor FM Air Conditioning, CER has just completed a £225,000 contract at the offices of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and a pair of restaurants in the world famous Mound Stand.

CER has carried out air conditioning and refrigeration work at the most famous cricket ground in the world for the past eight years, so it was the obvious company to call in when MCC, the owner of Lord's and the landlords of the ECB, needed both types of cooling fast.

All the work had to be completed in a very tight time frame, to fit in with the test match schedule and Middlesex games.

## Night time working

Work on the three-storey ECB offices required the installation of one monobloc 124kW Fujitsu VRF system consisting of two AJYA90UATF and one AJYA126UATF piped into one system, and powering 33 ceiling and wall mounted indoor units, while the offices were still occupied. This required working every possible weekend and between 5pm and 5am during the week.

Says John Hazelton, managing director of CER: "All the pipe work had to be hidden under the false floors, which often required us going in at five o'clock in the evening, lifting the floor panels and laying pipe work. Then, at five o'clock in the morning, putting all the flooring back, vacuuming up any mess and leaving the office spotless to ensure it was ready for the ECB staff to arrive at 8am."

The work in the Mound Stand required two 28 kW Fujitsu AJYA90LATF VRF systems, powering a total of 14 ceiling hung units and six cassettes.

The cassettes were installed in the corridors and the ceiling hung units were shared between two large restaurants; one at the east end of the stand and one at the west.

Says John Hazelton: "We needed so many units because each restaurant needs to serve 75 to 80 people with hot food in a short lunch break. So the heat load goes from minimal to maximum in a few short minutes.

"We chose the Fujitsu units because they gave the best value, reliability, sound levels and matched our long pipe runs. We sourced them from FM, with which we have had a long relationship, and it assisted us with the capacity calculations and system design."

## Hidden pipework

The refrigeration side of the contract involved the installation of ice machines, chilled cabinets and four cold stores – three chilled and one freezer.

Says John Hazelton: "The biggest challenge of the project was the fact that there was very little space to install the pipe work; all of which had to be either buried under the ground or hidden between floors. The building had won an architectural award, but there was very little space between floors – only 150mm under the floors but no room at all in the concrete ceilings.

"The outdoor units also had to be sited discretely, so as not to detract from the look of Lord's Cricket Ground, the home of cricket. The Mound Stand external units had to be sited behind a lift shaft, which caused us a bit of a scramble as we approached the test match date, as there was a delay in its completion by the builders.

"The positioning of the outdoor units at the ECB offices also had to be done very sensitively, as the local council has strict noise restrictions, aimed at protecting nearby residents. Due to the low noise of the outdoor units we were all pleased to comply with these restrictions."

John Dawson, project manager for MCC, says: "We used CER for work in the Mound Stand and the ECB offices because we have had an excellent relationship with them for a number of years now. They respond well when we give them a brief to complete a job in a very short time scale."

