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# ABB motors and drives arrive just in time for Coventry hospital

Matched pairs of ABB high efficiency motors and drives will reduce energy consumption at the new Coventry Hospital by over 1,400 MWh per year for the ventilation system in block A, when it comes fully into service in 2006. Similar savings are expected for the planned blocks B and C.

Ranging in size from 0.55 kW to 45 kW, the 230 drives and motors packages are being supplied on a just-in-time basis by ABB, being produced and delivered to meet the installation time table of Air Handling Systems, suppliers of the ventilation system.

Wes Campbell, Senior Project Manager for Air Handling Systems says: "We chose ABB because we have worked with them before. We know we can trust their products to arrive on time and to operate reliably."

"Buying a combined motor and drive package makes sense because the two products are exactly matched to each other, giving the most efficient power consumption, and if there is a problem in any part of the system, ABB has full responsibility and we know where to go to get things put right."

Using variable speed drives to control the flow of air and water in the HVAC system can save well over 50% of the energy, compared to using traditional control methods such as throttling valves and vanes. On a large site like Coventry Hospital, this can have a significant impact on running costs.

The £150,000 contract is one of a number of recent large projects for ABB's sales organisation for dedicated HVAC drives, which was set up 18 months ago. In addition, ABB is also delivering low voltage switchgear to the hospital.

The just-in-time production posed no problems for ABB. "We are used to products being called off in this way for major projects," says Nick Thorne, sales manager, HVAC.

Although some of the equipment is already installed, the majority of the drives will be installed once the hospital is more complete.

The drives will be mounted on the side of the air-handling units and are enclosed to IP54. ABB will commission all the drives to make sure they are optimised for the applications and that the energy optimisation programme contained in the direct torque control is activated.

Support for the drives is also vital. Says Campbell: "With such a critical application as a hospital, we need fast service if things go wrong."

Local warranty support and after sales service will be provided by Sentrige Ltd., ABB's local Drives Alliance Partner located in Coventry, offering a 24-hour service.

The hospital is being built under the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) by a consortium led by Skanska, Europe's second largest construction company. The consortium will build the new acute hospital, a new mental health facility, a new clinical sciences building and a number of other ancillary buildings, as well as keep those buildings fully serviced and maintained to agreed standards for 35 years from the end of the construction period.

The new 1200-bed hospital will replace the existing Walsgrave Hospital plus the majority of Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, and is built on the Walsgrave Hospital site.

The entire project is due to be completed in 2006. First to open will be the clinical sciences building, due for completion by October 2003.

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**Caption:** Energy costs at the new Coventry Hospital will be kept in check by 230 matched drives and motor packages from ABB. The hospital is currently being built under Private finance Initiative (PFI) by a consortium led by Skanska.

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