

## J & E Hall cooling technology installed at the Royal Armouries



A top tourist attraction in the north of England has installed J & E Hall cooling technology to protect museum artefacts from the ravages of infestation. The Royal Armouries in Leeds attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors a year and its national collection of exhibits, dating from the 14th Century, ranges from suits of armour worn by medieval knights to mechanised weapons from the World Wars.

The museum accepts exhibits large and small but many arrive in poor condition. They may be carrying insects which can cause damage and these bugs can infest other artefacts once on show in the museum. To combat this new exhibits spend five days in quarantine at low temperatures before being defrosted and made ready for display. A new freezer room has been installed at the Royal Armouries to help with this and playing a key role in the cooling system is a J & E Hall Fusion Commercial Condensing Unit.

Stephen Cohen, head of maintenance at the Royal Armouries in Leeds, explained: “We have a treasure trove of military history on display but dust mites, wood furniture beetles and moth larvae are among the invaders hidden in new exhibits that can cause us all sorts of problems.

Our old cooling system was no longer fit for purpose. We needed a new, larger freezer big enough to store a horse in – as some of our artefacts are on this scale.”



Many of the exhibits are old and made of wood, cloth and other degradable materials. They can decay quickly if action is not taken to halt infestation. Stephen Cohen said: “Our five-day quarantine process ensures that all the bugs are killed off before an exhibit goes on display in the museum. This new freezer allows us to store larger exhibits and a more extensive range too. It also saves us transport costs and hiring other freezing facilities. It’s a win-win situation.”

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The J & E Hall range of Fusion Commercial Condensing Units are the ideal solution for commercial refrigeration installations where noise, size and reliability are paramount. Housed in a cabinet made of electro-galvanised mild steel with anti-corrosion treatment and coated in baked polyester powder paint, the units are able to withstand the most stringent weather testing. All units are acoustically lined. Fusion Scroll units house the extremely efficient Copeland scroll compressor and the standard Fusion range houses a highly-reliable reciprocating compressor fitted with jacket to further reduce noise.

All condensing units come complete with components fitted during manufacture to save the installer time and money. Other benefits include hinged doors that provide simple access for service and maintenance. Fusion and Fusion Scroll condensing units are available for medium and low temperature applications.

The cooling system for the new freezer at the Royal Armouries operates in a temperature range of -24°C to -28°C and runs on R448 – a low Global Warming Potential (GWP), energy efficient and non-flammable refrigerant for low and medium temperature operations.

The installation was carried out by Blackburn-based ACME Facilities Group, who worked closely with J & E Hall to size the system and capacity needed for the new freezer room at the museum.



Andrew Hegarty of ACME Facilities Group said: “We chose the J & E Hall system for the freezer because we know we receive excellent reliability from the product and superb technical back-up from J & E Hall. It was a rewarding installation to work on as the artefacts stored in the freezer can be very different and very old. Keeping the freezer within the correct temperature range is a key element in ensuring that the artefacts are free from contamination and ready for public viewing. We are delighted that the installation is making a contribution to the visitor experience at the Royal Armouries.”

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