



Notting Hill Renovation Required Multiple Heating and Cooling Solutions

Unico System proved to be ideal for areas with limited headroom

The renovation of a three-story building in the heart of the trendy Notting Hill neighborhood in London required more than just standard upgrades. The unusual open layout of the structure meant adding new heating and air conditioning systems that would preserve the design and accommodate both high and low ceilings, while providing better efficiency than the old system did.

To find heating and cooling solutions for the building on Talbot Road, architect Iain Pattie of Halehold, Ltd., consulted The Quantum Group. The challenges were plentiful. The building required heating and air conditioning throughout to replace the inefficient condensing units, which were running on obsolete R22 refrigerant and an inefficient non-condensing boiler. The contractor had to take into account the existing design, high solar gain in summer and heat loss in winter.

The Unico System®



Unico slotted vents evenly heat and cool employees in the lower level office space.

Strategy:

A traditional heating and cooling system was installed in the open plan areas. But what should be done about the ground floor and basement? The new tenants wanted to use these areas for office space, but with limited headroom it would be a challenge to heat and cool these areas using a traditional system with bulky, intrusive ductwork.

“The ground floor office area underneath the mezzanine level and the office/relaxations area in the basement definitely posed special challenges,” said Rinus Groenewald, Technical Sales Manager at Quantum. He recommended the Unico System, a small-duct heating and cooling system.

“We chose the Unico System over standard ducted units because of the reduced ceiling height in both areas,” Groenewald said. “Also, the areas to be served were fairly large, so using wall-mounted units would have been impractical; we would have needed loads of smaller local units.”

Noise was also a consideration for this office

space. “The Unico System operates quietly, and we added the Climaver Neto acoustically lined duct to reduce sound even more. It’s a big difference compared to conventional air conditioning systems.”

Results:

Two Unico System air handlers were installed – one in the basement and one on the ground floor. Discreet, linear slotted outlets from Unico deliver heating or cooling, quietly and efficiently.

Tenants have moved into the office and are reaping the benefits of Unico’s quiet, unobtrusive cooling and heating systems.

“The contractor loves the Unico product and has used it on a number of projects,” Groenewald said. “Unico’s heating and cooling solutions have been available in the U.K. for 15 years and we continue to be impressed with the performance and reliability of their products.”

Unico slotted vents
(far right, behind
pillars) fit right in to
this industrial style
renovation.

A view of the main level.



Before the renovation, radiators provided heat to the lower level, while a high-wall mini-split provided cooling.

A view from the upper level
of the three-story building.



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The Unico System®

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Unico, Inc. manufacturing plant and sub-assembly plant

Unico, Inc. is the leader in small duct heating and cooling systems and other high-end HVAC systems. The company manufactures all of its products in St. Louis, Missouri, with over 125,000 square feet of modern manufacturing space. The company is well known for extensive use in older, architecturally unique homes and buildings as well as elite, high-end custom homes. The company is family owned and operated and their products are available throughout the United States and Canada, and in over 28 countries around the world.



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