

Toshiba Solutions

Inverter-controlled splits for historic town centre refurbishment

Case Study: Broadstairs Office

The new building was too good an opportunity to miss to install energy-efficient heat pump-based heating and cooling, and keep staff and customers comfortable throughout the year.



Application

A stunning new, compact three-storey office building is now the headquarters of Terence Painter Properties in the High Street in Broadstairs, on the Kent coast facing France. The imaginative principal Terence Painter and his son James decided that air conditioning could provide all the building's heating and cooling needs if they chose wisely.

The solution

Just three inverter-controlled Toshiba splits with six high-wall indoor units provide for the entire 1550 ft² of space. "The building faces the sun for much of the day so there is a lot of solar gain", explains Terence Painter. "The estate agency next door have had to install blinds because of the sun, which is hardly helpful to the displays of properties in their windows."

The historic-looking building was designed by Thanet-based architects Rowlett and Taylor and retains much of the character and style of the Bohemia Theatre that once stood on the site. It even includes a performance space in front of the set-back theatre-style foyer.

Property expert Terence Painter developed the property himself, managing the sub-contractors. He wanted the benefits of a compact, highly efficient, exceptionally quiet air conditioning system and is delighted with the Toshiba systems. The high levels of everyday comfort are enjoyed by staff and customers alike.

The patented Toshiba technology gives the equipment a COP of 5.0, which is extremely energy-efficient. It uses over 30% less energy than previous unit generations. The twin-rotary compressor is quieter too. The outdoor units were sited neatly on the wall in the alley separating the new building from the adjoining property, and inside the piping and wiring were quickly and neatly installed. The units respond quickly to the requirements of the occupants and enable individual control of each environment.

Terence Painter explained his satisfaction, "We're involved in some pretty significant local developments so we need a strong central presence in Broadstairs and impressive agency and back-office space. The opportunity that this long vacant site presented was too good to miss. It was still owned by one of the original theatre directors, and we have tried to maintain some of the links with the history of the site."

"Air conditioning was essential and we wanted the best."



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