



PROJECT

Airport Retail Complex –
Airside

LOCATION

Stansted Airport

INDUSTRY SECTOR

Transport

PARTNERS

- Carillion Construction
- Jacobs Engineering
Consultant

SOLUTIONS

New Fire Sprinkler System

BENEFITS

- Enhanced Life Safety
- Business resilience

PRODUCTS

Sprinkler System

THE CHALLENGE

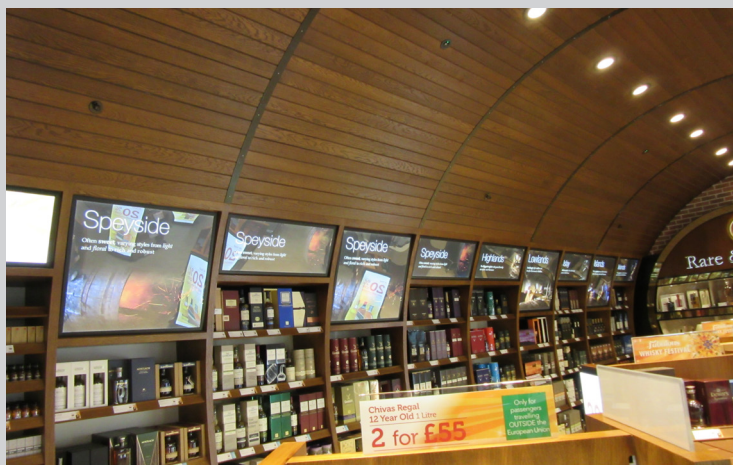
London Stansted Airport is one of London’s satellite airports located approximately 30 miles northeast of the capital. A bustling base for several budget airlines, Stansted is now the third most popular airport in London and the fourth busiest in the UK. The Stansted runway is also used by several private companies such as the Harrods Aviation Terminal which handles private jets and even some state visits. Previously owned by BAA, the airport is now part of the Manchester Airports Group (MAG).

During 2014/15 the airside retail complex was to be completely refurbished. This involved a comprehensive strip-out and reconfiguring of the internal building fabric including the building services. The life safety fire sprinkler system was a vital part of these services and this too had to be stripped back to the main supply pipe downstream of the control valves.

From 2013 Vipond Fire Protection worked closely with Carillion, the main contractors for the project, and Jacobs who were appointed as M&E consultants. Vipond were tasked with carrying out all operational works whilst the airport remained open for business.

Careful coordination was vital to the success of the project. The works were carried out in a phased programme over the period of a year and are expected to be fully complete during the summer of 2015. Expediting the project in an operational airport presented additional complications.

“It was
business as
usual for
one of the
UK’s busiest
airports”

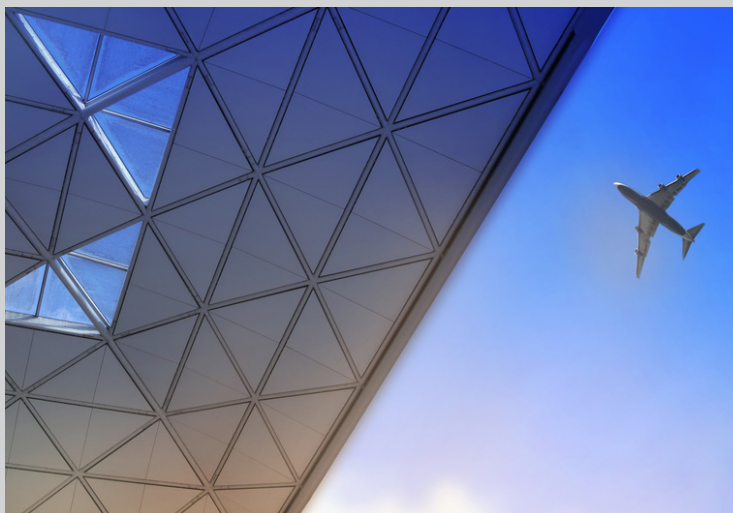


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COMPANY PROFILE

Vipond Fire Protection Ltd has its roots going back to 1969, when it was started as a small family owned business. In 1998 it was acquired by Vipond Inc of Canada. The company has since expanded and grown and now has 5 offices covering the whole of the UK and Ireland. Vipond Fire Protection Ltd is ultimately owned by API Group Inc.

APi Group Inc. is a multi-billion-dollar parent company for 38 independently managed construction companies in more than 200 locations worldwide. APi Group combines the personal attention of small-to-medium sized construction companies with the strength of a global industry leader to build a safer environment, develop leaders and bring innovation to the construction and fire protection and suppression industry. Since 1926, APi Group has grown by acquisition to become the stellar multi-billion-dollar company it is today.

The secret? Our subsidiaries maintain who they are. They keep the identity, reputation, customer relationships and culture they've worked hard to establish.

APi Group's subsidiaries have collectively served customers on all continents, including Antarctica.

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THE SOLUTION

Communication and engagement with each of the retail units and other contractors was paramount to ensure the smooth installation of the systems within the retail units and the main complex.

All existing sprinkler pipework was stripped. The new installation was based on a complete redesign of the airside retail area to LPC regulations Ordinary Hazard Class 3 with BS EN12845 life safety enhancements. The task for Vipond was to provide sufficient sprinkler infrastructure to provide supplies for 42 new retail units, food outlets and duty-free shops. The pipe specified for the project was BS EN10255 Heavy Grade which provides a more robust installation than regular sprinkler pipe. As a result the longevity of the system is likely to far exceed any projected lifespan required. All infrastructure pipework was installed by Vipond within the baggage handling hall below the main concourse. Existing valves and water supplies were utilised. The airport required two levels of protection due to congestion of services at high level, one at the ceiling soffit and one below the other building services. Each retail unit operator was responsible for its own sprinkler protection within each unit and Vipond has also been successful in providing separate installations for several of these units. For all outlets, Vipond installed a zone check-valve to provide a unique address which is easily identified. These in turn sends signals via the building management system, so that the authorities know exactly where an outbreak of fire occurs, should this happen in any one of the retail outlets.

THE OUTCOME

The completion of the contract on time and within budget enabled the airport to continue functioning during the installation phase. This result will be an enhanced experience for passengers passing through this busy hub.

Fitting out the new facilities with sprinklers in the sometimes hectic environment of an airport requires extra care and Vipond carried out the works efficiently resulting in a seamless transition for the customer. This means no significant loss of revenue and allows airlines to maintain their existing schedules. Keeping the airport open during alterations ensures that airlines do not need to consider moving their schedules to other airports.



“Planning and communications were key to the success of the project”

