

Case study: Retail

MHI delivers compact air con solution for car dealer



Fact file

Project	Ford Dealership, Swindon
Project outline	Air conditioning solution for new car showroom and service centre
Installer	Cooling Techniques
Products	KX VRF system



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Compact, economical and energy efficient air conditioning systems from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) provide comfortable conditions in all seasons for customers and staff at a new car showroom and service centre in Swindon. Selected for their reliability, performance and price, the MHI VRF and split systems were installed at the new Allen Ford facility by Northampton based Cooling Techniques.

Allen Ford's new car and commercial vehicles dealership premises includes 600m² for sales and an adjoining 900m² building for service. The sales building includes a showroom, offices and meeting room – all air conditioned – while the service department has air conditioning in its reception area, offices and canteen.

John Needham of Cooling Techniques sourced the MHI systems through a distributor, "I have used MHI equipment on numerous projects – it combines high quality with good prices, and has never let me down," he says.

The specification for the sales building includes a FDC140KXEN6 5hp (12.0kW) Micro KX VRF outdoor unit which utilises the range's excellent connectable capacity to drive five FDUM-type low/middle static pressure ducted indoor units totalling 6hp in the offices. With planning constraints requiring low profile outdoor units on this building, the showroom and meeting room are cooled by seven FDUM ducted systems in high specification single split configurations, cooling-rated at 7.68kW and 12.95kW (up to 9kW

and 16kW heating). Part of MHI's evolution range, these efficient inverter controlled systems offer energy savings of up to 38%. The sales facility also has three fresh air ventilation and heat exchange units, each refreshing internal air at 800m³/h and economically using the waste stream to pre-cool or pre-heat the incoming air. This ensures compliance with Part L2 of the Building Regulations, by reducing the overall need for energy to cool or heat the building.

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The service centre utilises the extended pipe run capabilities of MHI's KX VRF systems, with a single 10hp outdoor unit driving two 2hp 600mm x 600mm four-way compact ceiling cassettes in the reception area, two similar 1hp cassettes (one in each of the two offices) and a 5hp FDUM ducted unit in the canteen.

Systems in both buildings are individually controlled with MHI's RCE3 remote controllers.

