

CASE STUDY: RED QUEEN STUDENT ACCOMMODATION, COVENTRY

GEBERIT MEPLA PROVIDING A FLEXIBLE PIPING SOLUTION

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Red Queen student accommodation in Coventry is a development of high quality, purpose-built accommodation serving students at the University of Warwick and being built by main contractor Torsion Group. Located on the A45, the development will consist of 210 bedrooms upon its completion in August 2020.

Mechanical contractor, Torsion Engineering Services Ltd, specified Geberit Mepla's multi-layered piping system for the building's supply of hot and cold water.

CHOOSING GEBERIT MEPLA

In the first instance, Torsion Engineering Services Ltd was looking for a product that was reliable with proven durability. Also important was that it worked with a manufacturer that was able to provide strong support both throughout the project and after completion.

Another consideration for the Torsion Engineering team was the selection of material for the system. Situated on a busy main road, the risk of copper theft from the building was a very real risk and so the contractor was keen to look to alternative solutions when specifying the piping system - yet one that still offered the same stability as copper.

Opting for Geberit Mepla's multi-layered system meant that Torsion Engineering had a solution that brought together the strength of copper with the flexibility and corrosion resistance of plastic.

Bendable yet durable, multi-layer piping systems like Geberit Mepla consist of three layers: an outer plastic layer made of polyethylene (PE-RT of the second generation) which protects against corrosion and mechanical damage, a central aluminium layer which makes the pipe stable yet flexible, plus an inner layer, which is also made of PE-RT, for internal corrosion resistance.

The one advantage that multi-layer systems have over other systems is improved stability compared to purely plastic piping – but, importantly, without compromising on transportability or weight as is often the case with metals.

Meanwhile, the Torsion Engineering Services site team also had a dedicated member of the Geberit team to advise them during the installation process – something it was looking for from the outset as it had a requirement for expansion on the pipework and wanted to ensure that it had expert technical advice on hand throughout.

→ Project information

Location: Coventry Contractor: Torsion Engineering Services Ltd

GEBERIT

Project Completion: August 2020

→ Geberit Know-How

Problem: Durable and reliable product required

Solution: Geberit Mepla

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SPECIFYING THE SOLUTION

Mechanical Contracts Manager Leon Grant at Torsion Engineering Services explains why the engineering team opted for Geberit Mepla. "The support we received from Geberit has been very good from pre-construction right through to installation on site. We had a dedicated contact throughout who helped monitor the project, offering advice and guidance. This was particularly important given we had complexities around expansion of the pipework and was a huge factor in ensuring that the installation process went as quickly and smoothly as it did.

"We've had issues with copper theft in the past so were keen to find a solution that was not copper but still offered the same durability. Geberit Mepla combined this with flexibility and ease of transportation too so it really was the most obvious solution and the perfect system for a project like this."

Lee Place at Green Frog Mechanical Services worked on the installation of Mepla. He said: "We've used Mepla on many projects now. What I like about it is that installation is so fast and simple. It's also a very clean process, with minimal flushing and no hot works. The characteristics of the material and the press-fit system means that we can have complete peace of mind in the system."

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