



Life now “much easier” for hospital staff

The Royal Liverpool University Hospital is the largest hospital in Merseyside and Cheshire. The hospital has 710 beds in more than 40 wards and is the main Emergency Department for the city of Liverpool, and the largest A&E in the country.

Mike Farrell is one of two Fire Safety Advisers for the hospital. Working in a large critical environment with hundreds of staff, Mike’s role is to ensure that the Trust maintains statutory compliance and sources the most appropriate fire safety solutions.

The problem

At Liverpool Hospital, there is always a large number of people walking around, and staff are on their feet for most of the day, pushing beds and trolleys. Mike found that heavy fire doors were proving to be an obstruction for staff. “Day-to-day, there is a constant flow of staff and members of the public through numerous fire doors. It is particularly important for staff moving patients on trolleys to have ease of access. To eliminate the problem of fire doors being wedged open or damaged, fire safety controls are essential.”





The solution

Mike looked for a solution to resolve this: “To make sure we complied with fire regulations, various control systems were researched. We needed a product that would keep our fire doors open, creating a safer environment, but also with the reassurance that the doors would close when an alarm is activated.”

Mike found Freedor, a wireless, overhead fire door closer that makes opening a heavy fire door effortless and closes on the sound of the alarm. He said: “Freedor units are particularly suited to those areas where it is not practical to install a traditional magnetic door hold open system.”

The outcome

- Cost effective solution
- Easier access for staff
- A safer environment compliant with regulations.

“Our staff are really happy with Freedor. The unit removes the problem of the heavy entrance door and

Freedor is cost effective as the product is wireless. It has made life so much easier for all of the staff — they have quicker access and it requires minimal effort to open and close the doors when required.”

Mike continued: “We found Fireco to be very professional both in the supply and the installation process, and I have recommended Freedor to my colleagues at the National Association of Healthcare Fire Officers (NAHFO). We are now strongly considering purchasing more units for other areas soon.”

