



# The Maxwell Centre

## CASE STUDY

### ► Project Data

**PROJECT:** The Maxwell Centre,  
Cambridge University

**CLIENT:** Cambridge University

**ARCHITECT:** BDP

**MAIN CONTRACTOR:** SDC Builders Ltd

**SUMMARY:** Survey, design and installation of  
bespoke HVAC casings





Contractors in charge of a pioneering £26 million research facility at Cambridge University have turned to Contour for the production of bespoke casings for a natural vent system.

As a leading designer and manufacturer of guards and casings, with a reputation for innovation, Contour was selected to deliver 300 metres of wall-to-wall low-line casings for the natural vent systems for the prestigious Maxwell Centre.

SDC Builders Ltd, which was commissioned by architects BDP to build the prestigious Centre, a world-leading facility for research and industrial partnerships in the physical sciences, was impressed by Contour's ability to adapt its existing products to create a tailor-made system that met its exact needs.

The building has clean, contemporary lines both outside and inside, making it crucial that all aspects of the design complemented the original vision – right down to the unobtrusive casings.

Leigh Simpson, Managing Director at Contour, said using its slimline DeepClean radiator guard design as a basis for the fit-out project, its experts drew up a series of changes to meet SDC's specifications. The aesthetically appealing and low maintenance casings, ideal for high traffic areas and designed to enable easy cleaning and maintenance, were finished in satin black with horizontal grilles and black locks to match.

"Because we are able to create bespoke designs, we were able to change the colour, grilles, locks and their positioning to suit their bespoke requirements," Leigh said. "We not only proved to be competitive in price, we also proved that we could offer a tailor-made product that would tick all the boxes in terms of sleek looks, colour, function and ease of maintenance."

Contour, which provided a supply and installation package for SDC and split the project over three phases, was also able to change its design so that the casings could fit snugly around columns that were part of the room designs. "Form and function were really important to this project," explained Leigh. "The casings needed to blend into the overall aesthetic of the building environment, so we had to make sure it was installed to the highest standards."

"We are extremely proud to have played a part in the build of this very prestigious building at one of the world's leading universities. Our expert team has proven once again that Contour can deliver significant projects and be sufficiently nimble to adapt our designs to suit specific requirements."

The Contour range is supported by a comprehensive service package, which includes site consultations, dedicated technical and delivery departments, short lead times and an approved installation service.

**For comprehensive information on Contour's entire product range, or to arrange a free site survey, call 01952 290 498, or email [sales@contourheating.co.uk](mailto:sales@contourheating.co.uk)**

