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The Mall Maidstone replaces its fire detection system with Cerberus PRO

Advanced technology allows phased migration without interrupting business operations, assuring safety for people and assets at all times.

The Mall Maidstone is a shopping center in Maidstone, the county town of Kent, England. They wanted their existing fire detection system to be replaced with Cerberus PRO – during business operations.

The project

The Mall Maidstone, located in the town center of Maidstone, is one of the most important community shopping centers in the area. With 535,000 square feet (49,700 m²) of floor space, The Mall Maidstone has 75 shops, from large department stores to local independent retailers. About 30,000 people visit The Mall Maidstone every day, and even up to 50,000 during the Christmas season. To continue providing a safe and secure environment for both visitors and employees working at the shopping center, The Mall Maidstone decided to have their 32-year-old conventional fire detection system replaced with a new, addressable one.

The challenge

There were many challenges in this project. The new system had to be versatile and modular and fit the budget. In addition, The Mall Maidstone wanted a future-proof solution with an ensured upgrade path. Then, the old fire detection system had to be replaced in phases, without interrupting business operations. At the same time, the safety of the mall and its occupants had to be guaranteed throughout the project. To increase this challenge: The first step of the migration began right before Christmas – one of the busiest times of the year. The Mall Maidstone contracted the Siemens Solution Partner Senseco Systems Limited and decided for the Cerberus® PRO fire protection system.

Answers for infrastructure.



The solution

Thanks to its high flexibility, advanced technology and clever tools, Cerberus PRO proved to be the ideal choice for The Mall Maidstone. In the first phase, the control panels were replaced. During the second phase, the detectors and alarm infrastructure were implemented. The old system was maintained whilst installing the new one. The phased migration of the system including testing at completion was performed without interrupting retail operations at all – and people at the mall were safe at all times.

Cerberus PRO offers everything needed to meet the requirements of a demanding environment like a mall. In all, six networkable control panels were installed and 350 old detectors were replaced. The number of the field devices was increased to 600, including smoke detectors, heat detectors, multi-sensor detectors, sounders, manual call points and special detectors. Another plus of Cerberus PRO is its extended life cycle and advanced fire detection technology.

The benefit

At the end of the project, both Senseco and The Mall Maidstone were extremely pleased. Senseco completed the project on time, within the client's budget and without disturbing the business operations of the mall. "The Cerberus PRO equipment and its flexibility as well as the training and support we received from Siemens were the key to this project's success," says David Goodsell, Operations Director at Senseco Systems Limited.

The Mall Maidstone is glad that they decided for Senseco and Cerberus PRO. "All engineers involved on the project kept the inconveniences to the minimum. And, the most important thing is, that the fire safety system proves its strength in everyday use," states Paul Alcock, General Manager at The Mall Maidstone. Thanks to the integrated fire safety portfolio from Siemens, all future additions like voice alarm can be easily integrated in the installed Cerberus PRO system.

Highlights

- Cerberus PRO is flexible, versatile and modular – ideal for replacing existing fire detection systems in phases
- Advanced technology and clever tools – for quick and easy implementation and testing
- Cerberus PRO is a future-proof system – with a long life span and ensured upgrade path
- Integrated portfolio from Siemens – all fire safety systems come from one source