

World-class construction consultants choose Spelsberg IBT electrical equipment for new headquarters

Spelsberg IBT electrical enclosures and other equipment have been fitted throughout a prestigious new office building in Epsom, Surrey, designed by and for WS Atkins PLC, one of the world's most respected design, engineering and project management consultancies.

Atkins has had its world headquarters in Epsom since its founding sixty years ago, but its old building was no longer suitable for modern flexible working practices so the decision was made to build a new, state-of-the-art facility.

Due to open in late 2018, it will house around 1,000 multi-disciplinary staff, providing them and their visitors with all the facilities needed to run major projects around the world. The design of the building means it meets the highest sustainability targets, including BREEAM Excellent and EPC A, while its exterior complements the existing grounds and rich heritage of the site.

"Sustainability is at the heart of our design," says Kaare Nielsen, Atkins' lead architect for the new HQ. "We have designed our new offices to be as low energy as possible, reflecting our core company value of sustainability.

"The new building is intended to encourage more interaction between our multi-disciplinary design, engineering and project management teams."

With high performance a fundamental expectation for the building, it was clear that the highest quality electrical equipment was required and the design team decided to fully commit to the use of Spelsberg IBT enclosures and sockets.

The IBT range is designed for all types of concrete installation, including in-situ and pre-cast concrete construction and for all types of formwork. The IBT enclosures are available in a range of sizes, including standard and extra depth, and are easily customised to meet individual installation requirements. Each has a patented support spar that ensures particularly robust stability and safety and also enables them to be connected together into a uniform grid formation. This means as many boxes as required for a given installation can be assembled together into a neat and compact form. Thus, all the electrical equipment is located in one place, leading to efficiencies during installation and in subsequent maintenance, servicing and alterations.

Furthermore, the enclosures can be mounted quickly and easily on concrete walls and columns without causing any surface damage. This means they can be removed and/or relocated without the need to make good afterwards. On larger jobs, like the Atkins headquarters, where many boxes are installed throughout the building, the easy installation aids overall project progress and thus helps contain costs.

To complement the IBT enclosures, Spelsberg also offers the IBTronic Luminaire range of light fittings and the IBTronic TT range of speakers so that lighting, alarms and intercom systems can be installed with little difficulty. Versions of the IBT boxes are made to DIN, BS and NEMA standards, and as such, they have proved popular around the world.

Spelsberg also supplied flexible conduit and other electrical equipment as requested to the Atkins building.

The new building is already seen as something of a local landmark and is garnering praise in the architectural press. Atkins' staff are looking forward to moving in and the directors are certain that the flexibility inherent in the design will help its efficiency and productivity for many years to come.

Photograph Captions

Photo Caption 1:

The IBT enclosures are available in a range of sizes, including standard and extra depth, and are easily customised to meet individual installation requirements.

Photo Caption 2:

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About Spelsberg

Spelsberg is one of the largest manufacturers of electrical enclosures in the world. With over 4,000 enclosures available as standard and further customisation possible, it offers solutions for almost any application.

With the largest supply of non-metallic enclosures, ex-stock in the UK, its products are often available for delivery within 24 hours; customisation is possible on any product, including bespoke entries, engraved corporate logos or fitted terminals, within 48 hours. Products can be ordered direct from Spelsberg or from most leading supply specialists including RS, Rapid, Farnell and CPC.

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