PTSG
PREMIER TECHNICAL SERVICES GROUP PLC
Niche Specialist Service Provider

Case Study

PTSG is a ‘safe pair of hands’ in a live hospital environment

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Premier Technical Services Group PLC (PTSG) received an order for PAT and fixed wire testing for the Queens Medical Centre from Carillion in July 2015. The Queen's Medical Centre is a teaching hospital situated in Nottingham, England. Until February 2012 it was the largest hospital in the United Kingdom, and the largest teaching hospital in Europe.

Working in a critical environment at the Queens Medical Centre, with 24/7 live operations to conduct routine testing and inspections, can become a significant logistical challenge. Successful delivery can only be achieved in this instance if all stakeholders, irrespective of size, work towards a common goal. With this in mind, PTSG has worked closely with main contractor Carillion in the planning and implementation of its electrical works.

PTSG undertook a comprehensive survey of Queens Medical Centre, producing an accurate list of distribution boards throughout the site for the purposes of being able to provide the exact amount of labour required and monitor progress across the site. The same was carried out at the City Campus site. Both sites required rigorous assessment with attention to detail.

Complexities in this contract arose from the works being carried out in an open-access, unrestricted and uncontrolled facility. Both PTSG and Carillion ensured all the commercial and project management aspects of the contract were in place to allow for the works to start on time. Due to the nature of the environment, all works are carried out with an emphasis on integrity and competence, rather than speed.

In view of the environment in which this project has taken place, achievement can be measured in terms of compliance. This is because compliance in all areas ensures a high quality of work, which is crucial when dealing with life-dependent systems.

PTSG undertakes all fixed wire testing in accordance with BS7671 IET Wiring Regulations. This ensures compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

PAT testing is carried out in accordance with the IET Code of Practice for In-service inspection and testing of electrical equipment, to ensure compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

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PTSG overcame access issues caused by the nature of the services delivered at the hospital. This was achieved by setting out access plans to ensure works are delivered on-time, with the utmost efficiency.

Steve Grundy, PTSG's Electrical Supervisor, explained: "Due to the nature of the site we encountered some difficulties, particularly working around staff at the hospital. However, we had developed a strategy using our experience of working on previous hospital-based projects, such as Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham. Through careful planning and excellent communication, we overcame the challenges the site presented."

Innovation on this contract has been achieved in a number of key areas:

- Scheme planning – the original proposals have been reworked in order to achieve strategic objectives and ensure patient care;
- Alternative ways of working – solutions have been identified in accordance with access restrictions, compliance and safe systems of work;
- Working hours – PTSG has adapted to the needs of the end-user by maximising off-peak working including evenings, weekends and nights;
- Resourcing to meet constraints – this has seen the deployment of an adaptable team that can easily expand and contract to work around given restrictions (physical, time and compliance);
- Communication – the establishment of a routine, structured and all-encompassing stakeholder planning system;
- Flexibility and adaptability to meet client needs – Working diligently in a culture of sensitivity and patient care established as one common goal.