



EVACUATION INTERCOM

Brunel University / Case Study



15,000 students from 100 countries worldwide

1,616 staff

34 halls of residence including 4,549 rooms

1 disabled evacuation & refuge Intercom system

SIMPLICITY meets POWER



SECURITY AND COMMUNICATION

Evacuation at the touch of a button



Photos: Commend UK Ltd., Brunel University

Project Details

Customer

Brunel University, London, United Kingdom

Project Type

Implementation of a Disabled Evacuation & Refuge Intercom system

Basic Data

15,000 students from 100 countries worldwide

1,616 staff

34 halls of residence including 4,549 rooms

Technical Data

Intercom Server GE 200

Disabled refuge SS 101

Induction loop amplifier

Lift Intercom ET 562

Evacuation panel MS 199D

Desktop station EE 811

ComWIN software

The Challenge

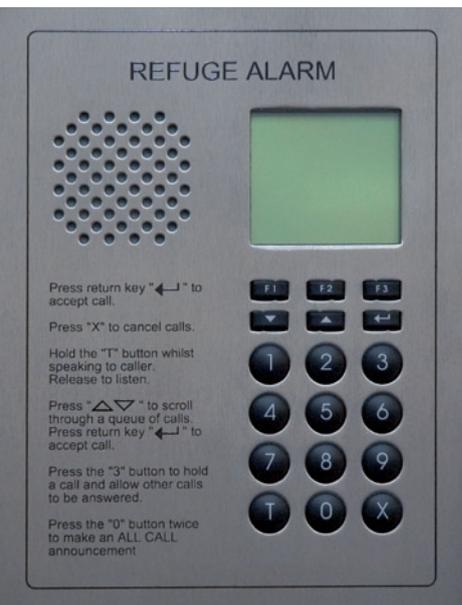
Most government buildings, including colleges and universities, are more than two storeys high, making it difficult for people with disabilities to evacuate quickly. British Standard 5588-8 states that “a basic tenet of building law is that access provision has to be complemented by egress provision...”, i.e. if people with disabilities are able to get into a building, then a route for escape must be provided, and that includes the communications necessary to use them. This standard applies also to educational facilities. Brunel University opted for a Commend UK solution to meet the stringent, extensive requirements for their evacuation solution.

The Solution

Commend UK met the challenge by providing a comprehensive Disabled Evacuation & Refuge Intercom system to Brunel University. The solution has been programmed to allow the many types of buildings spread over many acres to be evacuated quickly and efficiently in accordance with the university's procedures.

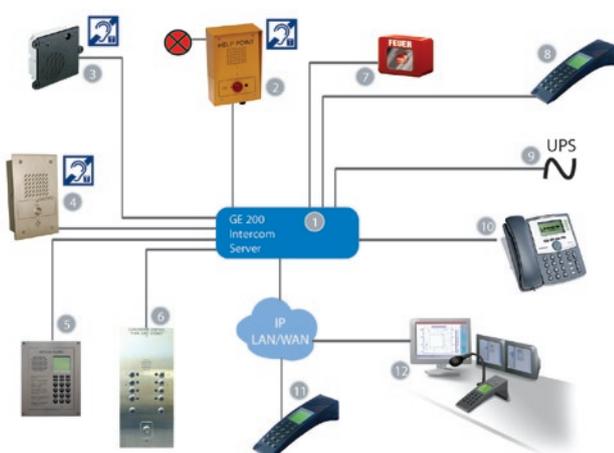
Within Brunel University's buildings and car parks, a number of Intercom stations have been installed. These call to various local master stations located within receptions and main entrances throughout the campus. If the master stations are not answered within a specified time, the call is automatically transferred to the main control room. Forming part of a larger integrated communication solution, each location has a Commend Intercom Server GE 200 supporting the local Intercom units. Applications supported by the Intercom Server include Disabled Toilet Intercom, Barrier Intercom, Disabled Evacuation & Refuge Intercom, Help Points, Lift Alarms, etc. Also, induction loop amplifier interfaces are provided for those with hearing impairment.





Refuge areas, which are often situated on landings, are equipped with an emergency Intercom panel. Provision has also been made for future integration with a CCTV system, so that cameras associated with each call point will automatically provide a live image. The main college building, faculty buildings, halls of residence, sports facilities, library and car parks are all linked over the IP network. Car park barriers are raised or lowered remotely with a single keystroke at the answering master station. Disabled toilets – each equipped with an alarm pull cord, indicator and reset button – are linked to the Intercom system. Possible future extensions to the system include more Help Points and lone worker monitoring.

The solution of Brunel University at a glance:



Key:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Intercom Server GE 200 | 7. Fire alarm |
| 2. Disabled toilets with over-door indicator | 8. Local master station EE 811 at reception |
| 3. Lift Intercom station ET 562 | 9. Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) |
| 4. Disabled refuge SS 101s in every stairwell | 10. Telephone connected via PSTN network |
| 5. Evacuation panel MS 199D | 11. EE 811 in central control room |
| 6. Fire exit repeater | 12. ComWIN graphic user interface (GUI) in central control room |

The Benefits

By having a Disabled Evacuation and Refuge Intercom system installed, not only is Brunel University complying with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), but it is enabling mentally and physically impaired people to seek direct aid during incidents such as fire, building evacuation or bomb scare. By going to the nearest Refuge and pressing the button, the person can talk directly to an operator. Intercom panels are placed at a height accessible to both the wheelchair bound and the physically able. The Help Points can be activated by the university to serve a dual purpose: in times of emergency they function as an emergency call station; in everyday use, they serve as information points. The changeover is triggered automatically via inputs from the fire alarm system to the Command Intercom Servers.

Major cost savings are made by the Command system networking the numerous buildings via the university's IP system. The university's telephone system forms an alternative back up routing. As a result, the systems in the individual buildings work autonomously and can still connect back to the main control room via the public telephone network.

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SWITZERLAND	Commend AG
LIECHTENSTEIN	Tel. +41-44-955 02 22 www.commend.ch
FRANCE	Commend France S.A.S. Tel. +33-149 18 16 40 www.commend.fr
SPAIN	Commend Ibérica S.L. Tel. +34-91-395 24 98 (Madrid) Tel. +34-93-567 76 79 (Barcelona) www.commend.es
PORTUGAL	
ITALY	Commend Italia S.R.L. Tel. +39-035-95 39 63 www.commend.it
NETHERLANDS	Commend B.V. Tel. +31-76-200 01 00 www.commend.nl
BELGIUM	
LUXEMBURG	
AUSTRIA	Commend Österreich GmbH Tel. +43-1-715 30 79 www.commend.at
SLOVENIA	
RUSSIA	
CROATIA	Commend Adria d.o.o. Tel. +385-1-369 11 23 www.commend.hr
SERBIA	
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	
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CZECH REPUBLIC	
UNITED KINGDOM	Commend UK Ltd Tel. +44-1279-87 20 20 www.commend.co.uk
IRELAND	
POLAND	C&C Partners Telecom Sp.z o.o. Tel. +48-65-525 55 55 www.ccpartners.pl
SWEDEN	JNT Sound System AB Tel. +46-8-99 30 60 www.jnt.se
NORWAY	
FINLAND	
DENMARK	
ICELAND	
GERMANY	Schneider Intercom GmbH Tel. +49-211-88285-333 www.schneider-intercom.de

America

USA	Commend Inc. Tel. +1-201-529-2425 www.commendusa.com
CANADA	
LATIN AMERICA	

Asia

CHINA	Commend Business Hub China Isolectra China Tel. +86-21-52 13 19 28 www.commend.cn
SINGAPORE	Commend Business Hub Asia Isolectra Far East Pte. Ltd Tel. +65-6272-2371 www.commend.com.sg

Africa

SOUTH AFRICA	Commend Business Hub South Africa Evolving Management Solutions (Pty) Ltd Tel. +270-112-746 665 www.commend.co.za
ALGERIA	Commend France S.A.S. Tel. +33-149 18 16 40 www.commend.fr
TUNISIA	
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Middle East

ISRAEL	Sberlophone Ltd Tel. + 972-4-834 10 32 www.sberlophone.co.il
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Oceania

AUSTRALIA	Commend Australia Tel. +61-3-9755-3947 www.commend.com.au
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	Commend International GmbH Tel. +43-662-85 62 25 www.commend.com
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