



Upgrading a failing commercial heating system in mid-winter

UES support First Bus sites with building services from Slough to Southampton and across to South Wales. Over the course of 20 years, we have developed excellent relationships with many depot managers with our high levels of service. As well as completing annual compliance checks we are brought in to deliver special projects when the need arises: from installing heating systems to prayer rooms.



The Challenge

We were contacted by the First Bus head office in Aberdeen in mid-winter with a problem. The heating system at their Port Talbot depot had failed. The situation was so bad, it was not only making working conditions uncomfortable, it was threatening to grind operations to a halt. A local contractor had quoted for the work, but they wanted another estimate for comparison. We had a surveyor on site within 24 hours and our quote and recommendations delivered within a week. Our solution was 10% more cost effective, so we were asked to complete the work.

FAIL

HEATING SYSTEM HAD FAILED



The Solution

The existing system was more than 30 years old and spares were both expensive and difficult to source. Moreover, it only operated at around 60% efficiency, meaning money was literally going up in smoke every month. We replaced it with four smaller condensing boilers which were more than 95% efficient. Together they had the same output as the older unit. The new boilers work in sync and modulate depending on the load placed on the system. We also installed a management system to control them and ensure they are always operating at optimal efficiency.

60%

30 YEARS OLD AND EXPENSIVE TO RUN



The Impact

We worked closely with the client to ensure their heating was back online as quickly as possible. This helped them regain a comfortable workplace and ensure that operations weren't disrupted. **And better still, with the efficiency increasing from 60% to 95% massive cost savings are being achieved.** Indeed it's predicted that First Bus will recoup the upgrade costs within three to five years. It is a more resilient system too. Powered by four boilers instead of one, it will keep going even if one fails. This minimises the chances of future discomfort and disruption.

95%

MASSIVE SAVINGS COST ACHIEVED