



Fireserv keeps the wheels turning at Hender Wholesale

Formed in late 2017, Hender Wholesale is one of the UK's newest wholesale distributors of motorcycle parts to the trade. Operating from a warehouse in Thorne, South Yorkshire, it has created a multi-tier facility that boasts the equivalent of 46,950ft² of flexible storage space across three levels.

With an extensive inventory, the need to protect assets as well as staff is paramount and this prompted Hender Wholesale's managing director, Davy Levine, to invest in a cutting edge fire detection solution. He explains, 'Throughout the warehouse we have complied with BRE Digest 437 for mezzanine installations and I wanted a dedicated fire detection system that could complement this high level of specification. I discussed this requirement with the electrical contractor that oversaw all electrical and lighting works on the multi-tier storage solution we have in place, and I was advised to contact Leicester based Fireserv UK.'

Commenting on the challenges of configuring a fire detection solution in a warehouse, Fireserv UK's director of operations, Liam Walters, states, 'Warehouses are generally quite dusty – something that can negatively affect the performance of point and beam detection systems. Also, with high ceilings and large volumes of air and smoke being diluted, it is only when the fire has gained enough thermal energy to force smoke upwards that a traditional system will activate. Conversely, aspirating smoke detection's resilience, stability and high degree of sensitivity reduces unwanted alarms, while maintenance and servicing is also easier, as it can be carried out at ground level without the need for access equipment.'

Fireserv UK recommended the installation of FAAST technology from SMS – a new generation aspirating smoke detection system that has been installed in a variety of warehouses, with excellent results. It consists of an enclosure, housing the electronics that are powered from a supply, and a fan inside it that draws air in via holes in pipes that are connected to the unit.

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The air that is drawn in then goes into an aspirating chamber after passing through a filter. The unique aspect about FAAST is that the air then passes across a dual source blue light emitting diode (LED) and infrared laser projected into the air itself and, if enough smoke particles are detected, an alarm condition is activated. Furthermore, FAAST's dual vision technology with advanced algorithms provides unrivalled accuracy, and its ultrafine three-stage filtration process separates and eliminates particles greater than 20 microns.

Thanks to its vast experience of installing aspirating smoke detection in other warehouses, the project went incredibly smoothly for Fireserv UK, something that was helped by the

flexibility that is designed in to FFAST. Liam Walters says, 'Even with the most meticulous design, there has to be room for manoeuvre when installing. FFAST allows for adjustments to maintain the transportation times and overall flow rate. These can be modelled quickly using the PipeIQ software, which also calculates the hole sizes and lengths of pipes, and creates isometric diagrams.

Hendler Wholesale's Davy Levine is impressed with the results and concludes, 'The entire system was installed with minimal disruption, completed within an agreed timeframe and since completion there have been no issues. We don't take any risks when it comes to protecting our staff and property from the potentially devastating effects of fire and smoke and the FFAST system offers us valuable peace of mind.'

