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Thorite – Nitrogen system installations at The University of Liverpool

Over the years, Thorite has completed numerous specialist projects for universities throughout the UK, with the latest being an installation of a series of compressor systems and Nitrogen generators for brand new laboratories at The University of Liverpool.

The University of Liverpool is leading pioneering research into coronaviruses and antimicrobial resistance to antibiotics from their new Centre of Excellence for Infectious Diseases and Research building which they moved into in July 2020.

Thorite had already completed similar installations at The University of Liverpool and had worked closely with HPC, Parker, and University project managers. However, the Centre of Excellence was a major expansion to current facilities, and the new development required multiple nitrogen outlets for the research laboratories which are used in liquid chromatography, mass spectrometry and a range of analytical instruments.

Thorite's installation is based on a Parker NITROSource system which consists of three, N2-80PALY nitrogen generators in a two on-duty, one standby configuration. This set-up provides outputs of up to 100³/h of nitrogen at 100ppm. Each generator is supported by a Parker OFAS pre-treatment package and in addition to the nitrogen generators, Thorite also supplied and installed three HPC Kaeser CSD(X) Series rotary screw compressors. These are individually controlled by Kaeser SIGMA AIR MANAGER 4.0 units which monitor the compressed air supply from each compressor.

The whole installation is exceptionally energy-efficient, with the Parker NITROSource system providing savings in compressed air usage of around 25%. Being a modular system, additional capacity can be easily added if required. Similarly, the HPC CSD compressor's SIGMA control enables compressor performance to be precisely matched to actual air demand, thereby allowing additional energy savings.

The system was fully commissioned in July 2020 and a University of Liverpool Project Manager stated: "We are delighted with the performance of the new installation, delivered on time and budget by Thorite. It will prove to be a highly valuable asset as the site extends its research capacity moving forward".

To find out more on this and other installations, please call 0800 092 1273, email capital@thorite.co.uk or visit thorite.co.uk.

Note

A family-owned business since its foundation in 1850, Thorite has grown to become the UK's largest supplier of pneumatic, compressed air and fluid handling products and systems. From its UK Headquarters in Bradford, which also doubles as the company's state of the art National Distribution Centre, Sales and Service Centre, Service administration and Systems Division, Thorite has expanded to create a national network of 11 Sales & Service Centres in Blackburn, Bolton, Bristol, Doncaster, Huddersfield, Leeds, Rochdale, Sheffield, North Shields, and the West Midlands.

Thorite's Managing Director, Stephen Wright is extensively involved with the business community. He has joined the board as a director of the British Compressed Air Society in November 2018. He was President of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce from 2011 to 2013 and served as Chairman of the West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce from 2015 to 2017. Stephen was Chairman of the Yorkshire and Humberside EEF Regional Advisory Board from 2012 to 2017.