

CASE STUDY:
COLEG CAMBRIA YALE

GEBERIT MEPLA PROVIDING A FLEXIBLE PIPING SOLUTION

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Coleg Cambria Yale is a sixth form college situated in the town centre of Wrexham, North Wales. The college awarded a £21m contract to Wynne Construction to design and build a new three-storey, 96,000 sqft building. This will include facilities for catering, creative arts and sports, as well as providing space for general teaching and IT studios. The building will replace elements of the campus' existing buildings, which have now been demolished.

Mechanical services contractor Margden Heating worked on the installation of the LTHW heating systems along with hot and cold water supply throughout the new building, which is due to complete by the end of 2020.

CHOOSING GEBERIT MEPLA

The team at Margden Heating were looking for a supply system with proven durability. They also wanted a system that came with a quick and straightforward installation process.

The new building's structure is partially curved, so another factor for the team to take into account during the material selection process was a product that would offer a good bending capacity. The team also wanted to work with a manufacturer that would be able to provide advice and support throughout.

Margden Heating specified Geberit Mepla's multi-layered system for the building's water services. Available in dimensions of up to d75, Geberit Mepla is suitable for a range of industrial and commercial projects such as new schools, student accommodation, hospitals and offices – and brings together the very best of both copper and plastic piping systems.

Geberit Mepla consists of three layers. The outer layer is made of polyethylene (PE-RT of the second generation) which protects against corrosion and mechanical damage. Its plastic inner layer, meanwhile, is resistant to cracking and ageing; its low internal surface roughness (7 µm) also makes it difficult for limescale and biofilm to build up.

This significantly enhances the hygiene properties of the pipe and makes it food-safe and an ideal choice for potable water.

Meanwhile, the pipe's aluminium central layer provides the system with the strength of copper, while remaining flexible enough to bend. This was a particularly important factor given the building's curved structure.

The Margden Heating team also had a dedicated member of the Geberit team to advise them and offer technical support during the installation process.

→ Project information

Location: Wrexham, North Wales

Contractor: Wynne Construction

Project Completion: Due Dec 2020

→ Geberit Know-How

Problem: To complete a large installation within a semi curved building, within the specified timescale

Solution: Geberit Mepla

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SPECIFYING THE SOLUTION

John Roberts at Margden Heating explains why the team specified Geberit Mepla for the new building's water supply. "We've used Geberit Mepla for many years and the support has always been excellent every step of the way. We know the product very well and knew it was the perfect solution for this project.

"The main factors for us that needed addressing was choosing a durable system that would stand the test of time. The building would be high footfall and in constant use, so we needed a reliable solution.

"What was also important for us was that the installation was kept as quick and simple as possible. The press-fit system meant that there was no hot works, so no additional mess."

The team also had a dedicated Geberit contact throughout the process. "Having a point of contact with the manufacturer meant that we had technical advice and expertise on hand throughout the process," John continued. "This helped ensure that the installation process went as smoothly as it did."

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