

# Sidney Street, Cambridge Coulson

**Coulson Building Group has specified a WES+ fire alarm system for refurbishment of a three- storey listed building on Sidney Street, Cambridge.**

The work to create 21 student accommodation properties on the first and second floors of this city centre location is being carried out above a bank and shops.

Ensuring that WES+ fire alarm system didn't interfere with existing wireless and wi-fi technologies used by businesses below was therefore critical on this project. WES+ uses Category 1 receivers throughout, which ensures maximum signal reliability and, crucially for this project, non-interference with other technologies.

### Project Summary

**Client:**

Coulson

**Project Type:**

Refurbishment

**Location:**

Cambridge



### WES+ at Sidney Street

The decision to specify a WES+ wireless fire alarm system for this listed building refurbishment was taken because the company concluded that it is 'the best temporary fire alarm system in the market'.

A wireless fire alarm system suited this project perfectly because, being a listed building, Coulson Building Group wanted to avoid any unnecessary drilling into existing structures, which would have been required with a wired fire alarm system.

All refurbishment and new build activity involves hot works and presence of flammable materials, both of which cause a serious fire hazard.

A contributing factor to specifying the 'best' available fire alarm system on this projects was therefore the close proximity of residential and commercial buildings. This, combined with the ability of fire to spread rapidly, meant that it was essential people living and working on or near Sidney Street would be alerted at the earliest opportunity. As a result, the health and safety team at Coulson Building Group specified automatic heat and smoke detection units as part of WES+ system because they provide round the clock, 24/7 protection.

[www.wesfire.co.uk](http://www.wesfire.co.uk)



CASE STUDY

Stuart Humphrey at Coulson Building Group explained; "As a company that has been established for over 130 years we are committed to using the best quality materials available on all our projects. At Sidney Street this meant we needed a fire alarm system that was compliant with latest legislation, including the relevant sections of EN 54, used category 1 technology and was practical to use."

He added: "WES+ was clearly in a field of its own because it is the only wireless fire alarm system that is EN 54 compliant and was extremely easy to set up and use. In our opinion, it is the best temporary fire alarm system in the market."

**"WES+ was clearly in a field of its own... the best temporary fire alarm system in the market"**

Category 1 wireless signals are capable of passing through all commonly used construction materials found on new build and refurbishment projects such as stone, brick, timber, concrete and steel. The automatic smoke detectors have dust resistant detector heads, which eliminates false alarms in this busy part of Cambridge city centre. Aside from being a distraction for local businesses and residents, an uninterrupted work schedule will mean that the refurbishment project is more likely to be completed on time.

If just one of the automatic heat or smoke detectors is activated, all call points sound a siren and personnel know to evacuate site immediately. The base station then instantly identifies which of the call points has been triggered, allowing rescue team to be directed to the source of the fire event. The base station also delivers extensive system reporting and configuration functionality.

### **About WES+**

Since the 2010 launch of WES, Ramtech has supplied many thousands of units and its wireless technology is currently being used by around 75 percent of the top 100 construction companies in the UK.

WES+ is the latest technological development from Ramtech, drawing on over 25 years' experience of developing radio technology. It is the first UK wireless battery-powered fire alarm system engineered to comply with appropriate sections of EN54 and therefore the Construction Products Regulation.

[www.wesfire.co.uk](http://www.wesfire.co.uk)

**WES+ information line:  
0115 822 3424**

The logo for Ramtech electronics features the word 'Ramtech' in a large, white, sans-serif font, with 'electronics' in a smaller font below it. A stylized white arc above the text suggests a signal or radio wave.  
**Ramtech**  
electronics