

Health Sector News

'Critical' role for Bender in new TV drama

Bender UK has played a key role in ensuring the authenticity of the operating theatre scenes in the new Sky 1 drama, 'Critical', by providing operating theatre equipment used in the hi-tech sets built for the series.

Each programme in the 13-part medical drama focuses on the team's real-time efforts to save patients during the critical first 60 minutes after they arrive at the hospital; these minutes flash by on the digital clock within the Bender touchscreen control panel controlling the theatre equipment. The company also supplied the advanced XLED surgical lighting used in the operating theatre set through its exclusive UK partnership with Steris.

'Critical' is set in a 'state-of-the-art' Major Trauma Centre, and each episode features a new and distinctive case. Malcolm Thornton, production designer for 'Critical' at Hat Trick Productions, explained: "The concept of the 'Critical' Trauma Unit was a cutting edge, hi-tech, medical unit equipped with state-of-the-art equipment. The set was to be lit entirely with LED lights, and this applied



to the operating theatre. We chose Steris XLED theatre lamps from Bender because of their light quality, and their stunning interwoven crescent-shaped lamp arrangement. The lamps' look was perfect for our setting, and their technical performance gave us the light quality we needed for the different medical situations to be depicted."

The use of the Bender touchscreen control panel also suited the hi-tech feel that the production team sought, while displaying the digital clock to track the 'race-against-time' action.

Malcolm Thornton added: "The multifunctionality of the screen gave us the

options of displaying graphics, switching to a live feed from our overhead camera, and playing-in pre-recorded digital sequences."

The Steris XLED modular lighting system offers a choice of 1, 2, 3, or 4 spots 'to meet every surgical need'. Each spot array of 20 LEDs is configured to optimise performance, producing patterns that Bender says are 'perfectly arranged to remove shadows and ensure excellent colour rendering'. As the LED lamps do not emit infrared rays, virtually no heat is radiated. The risk of drying out exposed tissue is thus minimised, and the conditions for both the patient and the surgical team – and the actors in 'Critical' – are cooler and more comfortable.

The 'wipe-clean' membrane design on the hygienic touchscreen operating theatre control panels 'delivers maximum sterility', while an anti-microbial silver nitrate coating enables staff to exercise safe control of the theatre environment 'via an ergonomic single point of reference', even when wearing surgical gloves.

Cover Story

Starkstrom: Powering Healthcare.

Starkstrom describes its S-equiP Solution as 'the turnkey solution to meet infrastructure and clinical needs for the operating room and critical care areas'.

S-equiP brings together 'state-of-the-art' medical electrical power supply systems and clinical equipment to provide a fully integrated solution for hospitals' critical areas. By working in partnership with hospitals, facility services, and healthcare professionals, Starkstrom says it will use its multidisciplinary expertise and experience to create a solution aligned to the customer's needs. From specifying the most appropriate products, to integrating multiple systems, the company will use the latest techniques to create a 3D model of one or more specific departments and design it to maximise integration and efficiency.

S-equiP Solution includes a range of products, including isolated power

supplies (IPS), uninterruptable power supplies (UPS), theatre control panels, PACS viewing stations, bespoke audio visual systems, UCV canopies, clinical pendants, operating room and examination lights, and operating room tables and trolleys.

The company said: "S-equiP will provide you with the time and cost savings that dealing with a single supplier brings. Services will include:

- Consultation, design, and project management.
- Supply and installation of market-leading, quality products.
- Comprehensive post-installation training, service provision, and warranty.

"Starkstrom, as part of the Progility Group, is committed to providing you with the very best infrastructure and clinical equipment for fully integrated clinical areas."

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£160 m Guy's Cancer Centre topped out

The £160 million new Cancer Centre at London's Guy's Hospital, which is due to open at the south London site in 2016, was topped out last month.

Designed around patient and staff needs to 'unify world-class cancer treatments and research in an uplifting, non-institutional, and clinically efficient healthcare setting', the 14-storey building has been arranged into a series of vertically stacked 'villages' to make it more manageable for patients. Each 'village' addresses a particular patient need, and has been given 'a unique identity'. There are three treatment villages for Radiotherapy, Chemotherapy, and Outpatients. There is also a Welcome Village with communal spaces on the ground floor, and a private patient unit on the upper four floors.

The Cancer Centre has been designed for Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation



Trust by architects Stantec and Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, and is being built by Laing O'Rourke. Arup is providing integrated structural and building services engineering.

The topping out ceremony opened with speeches on the second floor – the location of the radiotherapy treatment (linear accelerator) rooms. Following feedback from patients, the Cancer Centre will be the UK's first to wholly locate its radiotherapy treatment above ground.

Mental health services' £1.25 bn cash injection

A £1.25 bn 'package' of additional investment to boost mental healthcare services, the introduction of an Apprenticeship Voucher 'to put employers in control of the government funding for the training apprentices need', and a four-year, £20 m investment to fund establishment of four pilot 'Connected Health Cities' (Leeds/Sheffield, Manchester, Newcastle, and Liverpool), were among measures unveiled in George Osborne's 2015 Budget on 18 March.

The HM Treasury *Budget 2015* report, which the Chancellor laid before Parliament on opening his Budget Speech, noted the 2014 Autumn Statement's announcement of £2 bn in additional funding for frontline NHS services in 2015-2016 – 'to help meet growing demand, improve services, and kick-start the transformation set out in the

NHS's Five Year Forward View'. The 'Five Year Forward View' had also made explicitly clear, however, that the NHS would need to find 'significant' annual efficiency savings 'to meet demand and maintain good quality patient care'.

Lord Carter, as chair of the NHS Procurement and Efficiency Board, is already, the *Budget 2015* document notes, 'undertaking action to help the NHS deliver its efficiency aspiration'; interim findings from his work show that 'action in a number of areas', including procurement, pharmacy, and property, 'could deliver significant savings that the NHS could recycle back into frontline care'. For example, local savings 'of up to £5 million annually' were found in one Trust simply by improving contract management, and 'by engaging with suppliers to find ways to resist cost increases'.

Complete cable management

Cable management specialist, Unitrunk, has supplied the New South Glasgow Hospital with cable ladder, tray, and trunking, as part of the extensive power infrastructure for the showpiece £842 million new hospital.

Boasting 1,109 patient beds over 14 storeys, the New South Glasgow Hospital is set to be one of Europe's largest acute

hospitals, offering specialist care for renal medicine, transplantation, and vascular surgery, and state-of-the-art critical care, theatre, and diagnostic facilities.

The cable management system from Unitrunk forms the infrastructure for all high voltage cabling, small power, and lighting, throughout the hospital campus.

Requirement to display CQC ratings now in force

From the beginning of this month, all health and care providers will have been required to make arrangements to prominently display their CQC (Care Quality Commission) rating.

The aim is to enable patients and their families accessing care services to make more informed choices about their care by seeing first-hand if the Care Quality Commission has judged the services as 'Outstanding', 'Good', 'Requires Improvement', or 'Inadequate'.

The Commission has developed a suite of posters that will be automatically generated through the regulator's website for all care services that receive a CQC rating, to download, print, and display. The CQC said: "People can expect to start seeing performance ratings on provider

websites, as well as across premises, public entrances, and in waiting areas in healthcare facilities from 1 April this year. In line with CQC's enforcement policy, appropriate action – including imposing a fine – can be taken should the CQC find providers are in breach of the regulation."

Health Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, added: "We want to have the world's safest health and social care system, and we know, in the wake of Mid Staffs, that transparency is vital in helping to improve standards of care. We have made significant changes to become safer and more transparent; this is another important milestone."

CQC's final guidance for care providers on how to display their ratings is available to view at www.cqc.org.uk/content/display-ratings

Liverpool Trust prosecuted over asbestos

The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust has been prosecuted by the HSE after it emerged that its workers may have been exposed to asbestos fibres.

It was prosecuted after the fibres were discovered in the basement of its offices at Derwent House, on Liverpool's London Road, in January 2013.

Liverpool Magistrates' Court heard that it had failed to act on a survey carried out in 2006, which identified that an area of the basement may contain asbestos, and recommended its condition be properly assessed. An HSE investigation found workers had regularly visited the basement to access patient records.

The HSE explained: "The risk came to light on 9 January 2013, when the Trust's health and safety manager noticed the doors to an out-of-use goods lift were damaged. The lift doors contained asbestos, meaning a risk of exposure to those accessing the basement. A subsequent survey found asbestos fibres present in several different areas of the basement."

The Trust was fined £10,000 and ordered to pay £696 in prosecution costs after pleading guilty to two breaches of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

Recessed and surface luminaires

Power management company, Eaton, has launched a new recessed and surface lighting product range featuring fluorescent or LED technology as the main light source.

The Moduseal 2 range 'provides a complete solution for a variety of industries where hygiene and protection are paramount, such as healthcare, manufacturing, and food production'.

"The Moduseal 2 is a completely redesigned range with many new and

improved features, including elimination of screws within the frame," said Andy Gallacher, product marketing manager. "This allows for a cleaner appearance, which is more visually appealing, and offers an additional level of hygiene for sterile or clean environments."

The Moduseal 2 range is IP65 dust tight, and water jet proof protected from below, and comes in a choice of recessed and surface bodies. The luminaires' rear body also features IP54 protection.

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MBO ensures Knightsbridge's future is 'in safe hands'

The future of Bradford-based Knightsbridge Furniture is 'in safe hands' following the announcement of a buy-out by managing director Alan Towns, and operations director, Peter Denham.

"This is a hugely exciting time, both for the company, and for me personally," said Alan Towns. "Peter and I look forward to exploring new directions and new markets, while consolidating our current position as one of the UK's foremost designers and in-house manufacturers of contract furniture."

Knightsbridge Furniture has produced seating, tables, and cabinets, for the international contract arena for over

80 years at its Bradford headquarters, with specialist divisions now covering the healthcare, residential care, hospitality, and corporate sectors. The company says it continues to balance traditional craftsmanship with advanced manufacturing technology, and 'a commitment to sustainability'. It holds Preferred Supplier status with the NHS, the SHS, HSE Ireland, and key private and charitable healthcare providers.

Alan Towns said: "We invite all Knightsbridge customers, and potential new clients, to a personal tour of this fabulous and historic plant, so please get in touch with us."

Diary dates

14 April *IHEEM* London & South East Branch meeting and presentation on 'A ground-breaking strategic estates partnership', by Ryhurst MD, Stephen Collinson, Bevan Brittan offices, Holborn Viaduct, London.
T: 07782 566248/07920 818515;
Email: steve_perfect@hotmail.co.uk
fomblanche@talktalk.net

23 April *IHEEM* Scotland Branch AGM, Lecture Theatre, Glasgow Dental School, with Presidential Address. 11.00 am-1.00 pm. Please confirm attendance to Graeme Dunn, at graeme.dunn@atkinsglobal.com, or T: 07979 964066.

23 April *IHEEM* North West Branch visit to Sportcity, Manchester, to see automatic controls and building energy management system – Further details to follow.
Email: prtansy@googlemail.com, or T: 01457 867637.

7 May *IHEEM* Wales Branch AGM and presentations, Arup offices, 4, Pierhead Street, Cardiff. 12.30 p.m. start. Further details to follow. T: 01633 213160. Email: iheemwales@gmail.com

14-15 May HefmA 2015 National Conference, Hilton Blackpool. T: 0844 571 7250; www.hefma.co.uk/conference

19-20 May Design in Mental Health Conference, Exhibition & Dinner, National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham. www.designinmentalhealth.com/dimhn T: 01892 518877.

30 June *IHEEM* technical seminar on decontamination – 'the hidden issues', Birmingham, venue tba. T: 023 9282 3186. Email: chris.blower@iheem.org.uk, www.iheem.org.uk

20-21 October Healthcare Estates 2015, Manchester Central. T: +44 (0)1892 518877; www.healthcare-estates.com

Bookings open for summer school

Eastwood Park is now taking bookings for the second year of its hospital engineering apprentice summer school, at its specialist training facility.

The five-day residential programme is designed specifically for hospital engineering apprentices, to 'fill the gaps in the standard engineering apprenticeship skills framework'. Following two successful programmes last year, Eastwood Park has published dates for 2015 – from, 3-7 August, and from 17-21 August.

Apprentices will receive a practical introduction to:

- Electrical installations in medical locations.
- Medical gas safety (including permits to work).
- Electrical safety testing for medical equipment.
- HVAC – the purpose of ventilation in healthcare.
- Water hygiene.
- Decontamination and sterilisation equipment.

Training takes place in simulated hospital settings, and combines practical and theory learning.



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'App' to help manage reactive energy

Schneider Electric has launched an 'app' designed to help organisations and businesses 'better understand and manage reactive energy' to reduce energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.

The company explained: "The new Power Factor Correction (PFC) App will use energy consumption data to illustrate what can be achieved through effective management of reactive energy, including financial savings, emissions reductions, and the opportunity for increased supply capacity. Businesses can then act on the calculations. User organisations can expect to see a return on the investment in 1-2 years, with lower energy usage and CO₂ emissions continuing indefinitely."

"If a site has high reactive energy, more current must flow to create the same functional output, meaning higher utility bills," explains David Lewis, marketing manager. "On top of this, the increased network losses along the distribution lines lead to increased overall energy demand. Our new app will enable organisations to understand usage, and calculate the reductions in energy consumption and emissions they could achieve through Power Factor Correction. This typically ranges from between five and 10 per cent of most organisations' energy bills."

The PFC App is available now on Android and iOS, and via the Schneider Electric website.



Answering the call – better

Wireless nurse call technology specialist, Aid Call, says its latest system, the Touchsafe Pro, is 'the product of over 35 years of industry-leading experience', increased R&D investment, and 'invaluable customer feedback'.

It has been designed specifically for the hospital market, with HTM 08-03 compliance 'at its heart'. Aid Call said: "New features and advanced software will help nursing teams provide effective, patient-centred care via a system that remains easy to use. The system's wireless configuration allows complete flexibility and mobility. Without the need to rely on cables and stationary wiring points, installation is quick, undistruptive, and specific to each site. The system can facilitate individual patient requirements, adapt to change, and be added to over time."

Aid Call claims that 'the innovative features and powerful software achieve unrivalled functionality', adding: "Improving call response times, and increasing the depth of information available to staff and management, will heighten team performance and support staff in providing the most effective care."

Aid Call systems are programmed to track and record call information. Details of outgoing calls – including call location and response time – are stored, to provide a comprehensive insight into staff activity.

Touchsafe Pro features a user-friendly touch-screen, and optional emergency or cardiac pull-stop configuration.



Prioritise patient access

Access to services is the foundation of efficient healthcare delivery.

With an impetus on patient-centred care, the need to resolve capacity challenges has never been more focused. Yet improving access should not have to come at the cost of control of the patient pathway.

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