

Case Study: Nicholas Tye Architects



The Brief

To provide an energy efficient control system that would complement the ecological ideals of the practice and demonstrate its philosophy whilst delivering a comfortable, efficient and easily controlled workspace.

The Implementation

Nicholas Tye, award-winning architects, has created an impressive yet environmentally friendly office for its practice in the heart of the Bedfordshire countryside.

Niko provided the systems to deliver low-energy controlled lighting, heating and ventilation control.

The building has its own wind turbine, rainwater harvesting and uses eco paint to ensure its environmental credentials. The building is an expression of the ideology of its creator, Nicholas Tye. He selected Niko to provide the home automation, heating and lighting controls as its products and philosophy complemented his practice's goal to consciously address issues of sustainability.



The building is accessed via an electronically controlled gate, which is operated via RF remote control, or intercom with video communicating with the reception desk of the practice, which can then open the gates remotely.

Public areas, such as the lavatories, are automatically illuminated using motion sensors, which are activated as soon as the door is opened.

Wireless switches integrated into the Niko system are used in other areas such as the meeting room where the lighting audio and video functions can be controlled easily from the conference table without any unnecessary wiring.



The heating controls also integrate into the Niko system alongside the lighting controls, which can be programmed to switch on automatically at dusk - for example outside the building - ensuring there is always a light and reassuring welcome for visitors to the building. Programming also ensures that the lights and heating are automatically switched off at pre-determined times to ensure minimum energy consumption without compromising on safety or comfort.



Nicolas Tye Architects have demonstrated in their own building that it is possible to provide a high specification building that can combine the best in comfort and energy efficiency – and they chose Niko to help them do it.