



RBK NEWS

THE COMPLETE ELECTRICAL SERVICE

Delivering on deadline for flagship Gant store

The biggest city-centre shopping mall in Europe was launched in London at the end of 2008 – and the team from RBK Services played a key role in making sure that one of the centre's leading fashion stores was ready for the big day.

RBK has worked on a number of projects for international fashion retailers Gant, which now has around a dozen flagship stores across the UK, as well as being stocked in hundreds of major retailers from Aberdeen to Truro.

Gant's major new store within the Westfield Centre was the latest addition to their network of outlets in more than 70 countries, and the company has developed from an American brand to an international lifestyle label over the past 60 years.

The company has worked with Cathedral Interiors on the design and

shopfitting of a number of its UK stores, and RBK Services were once again asked to complete the electrical installation at the Westfield Centre, pictured below.

"We've worked with these contractors on a number of projects, and through them we've got to know the Gant team well, so it's always good to be working with clients that you know – it gives you a better understanding of what they want from a particular project," explained Kevin Meister at RBK.

"Obviously electrical installation for new projects or refurbishments is a key part of our business, and we always work to the highest possible finish, while making sure we can be flexible to meet the client's needs. That's a major factor in the way we do business, and it's essential in working with clients

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such as Gant. The final look and finish are so important in the retail industry, and meeting deadlines for store launches and centre openings are crucial.”

Mark Bagnal of Gant was impressed with the work of RBK Services. “We work with companies such as RBK because we need to know we can rely on them to deliver the job to the highest standards and on time, and they have always done that,” said Mark. “That is crucial on a project such as the Westfield Centre, so we’re more than happy with the work they have done.”

Despite opening at a difficult time for the economy, the Westfield Centre is expected to attract more than 20 million shoppers every year to more than 260 stores, with five ‘anchor stores’ – Debenhams, Next, Marks and Spencer, House of Fraser and Waitrose.

The west London centre covers 43 acres and nine postcodes, and took 13 million man hours to build.

Alongside the retail stores there are almost 50 places to eat, and Westfield will also eventually include a 14-screen state-of-the-art cinema, a gym and spa, and a new library.



The RBK Services team is heading into town!

After many years based at the Upminster Trading Park on Warley Street, the RBK Services team are heading for pastures new as the company opens an office on Brentwood High Street.

And while many of our customers and contacts have visited our offices and workshop at Upminster in the past, we hope the new base will make it even easier for people to come in and see us.

“Our premises at Upminster have been great for us, but there were a few downsides to having larger premises, so much further out of town,” explained Kevin Meister of RBK.

“For one thing, if people wanted to come out and see us, it was a bit out of the way, and access was not always easy. With our new offices in Brentwood, access by road is great as we are so close to the M25, and we’re now also just a few minutes from the railway station, which is especially helpful when we have projects or client meetings in London.

“Hopefully any of our clients or contacts who are in Brentwood will be able to pop in, say hello, and join us for a coffee,” added Kevin.

The new offices are at 1st Floor, 25 High Street, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 4RG. One other thing that has changed is the phone number, so you can now reach Kevin, Alan and the rest of the team on 01277 230000, or fax us on 01277 230001.

Bright future RBK looks to

With the growing emphasis on green energy sources – both to save money and to be environmentally friendly – the use of solar and specialist equipment and the growing emphasis on renewable energy has never been more important.

At RBK Services we are currently working closely with partners in the solar industry, and if we can bring the knowledge and experience gained over many years in electrical and solar new, alternative fields.

Companies working in the solar industry are already suggesting that introducing solar power could save up to 20% on the average hot water bill, and reduce the carbon footprint by around 50%. Solar pool heating in particular is a cost-effective solar hot water, due to the reduced maintenance required, and is an area which we are working closely with business partners.



Purely simple success f

Restaurants and drive-throughs run by fast food giants McDonald’s have been undergoing a major makeover over the past 12 months, with new styling for many of the main outlets.

RBK Services has been working with McDonald’s on a number of these refurbishments round the country, supplying the electrical installation expertise for the implementation of the company’s new ‘Purely simple’ branding scheme.

It’s another contract where we have

been working with retail and leisure development specialists Cathedral Interiors, and the RBK team have been working on site with Cathedral at projects all over the country, including Llanelli, Mansfield, Norwich, Ipswich and Cortonwood.

Roger Cockrell, Managing Director of Cathedral Interiors, said the RBK Services team played an essential part in completing the McDonald’s contracts. “As a company we always aim to deliver a high quality service, on time and on



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ers in the near future.



Modular wiring systems offer more benefits

The use of modular wiring systems has grown significantly over the past decade, as the construction and refurbishment sectors focus on finding faster ways to deliver the highest quality solutions on projects, at the best possible price.

RBK Services has designed, assembled and installed modular wiring systems for several years, and for a wide range of clients, including McDonald's and a number of recent UK projects for Starbucks.

"Our modular wiring systems are designed to suit almost any building application," explained Kevin Meister. "They use a plug-together cable system that is work-bench assembled, and then packaged for easy site delivery. Using a user-friendly numbering system makes it easy for the on-site electrician to install.

"And there are lots of benefits. It's more cost effective, quicker to install, and leads to minimal waste, thanks to the precise ordering of materials. Prefabricated buildings can also be fitted out electrically before site delivery, and all cables within an installation have pre-determined cable markings, which is invaluable for later additional works to existing circuits."

RBK Services can design, supply and install both armoured and unarmoured modular wiring systems, as well as branch cabling, suitable for risers, corridors, tunnels and bridges. To find out more, call RBK Services on 01277 230000.

When times are tight, it's good to talk...

Welcome to the first RBK Services newsletter. Most of you know our company well, but for those potential clients and contacts that



are not quite so aware of the work we do, the aim of this newsletter is to give you an insight into the projects and contracts that RBK carry out, and the wide range of services we can offer.

In the current economic climate, it's important that we continue to network and help each other's businesses to succeed. Good communication can help to find solutions to the challenges that you or your company may face, many of which may be shared by others. We have taken that approach in the past, and it has set solid company foundations for the present climate – and for whatever the future may have in store.

I take personal control of client relationships at RBK, and I know the importance of ensuring that clients are happy with the services we supply. Having a responsible team brings confidence that we are giving no less than expected, and as a team we know that a good reputation has to be earned. We believe we have earned that good reputation, which is reflected in our client portfolio and the projects we have carried out to date. Some of the projects are mentioned in this newsletter, while others include our work with 3663 Fast Food Services and Starbucks Coffee.

There will always be companies that flourish in a recession, but most will look at ways that costs can be saved. Over-spending on utilities is often overlooked in boom times, and our control division has recently carried out a number of energy-saving projects with automated software control upgrades for one major client, and are continually taking enquiries from others for cost-saving ideas.

Kevin Meister

For fast food makeover

budget. To make sure we can achieve that we only work with contractors who we know we can rely on," said Roger.

"We know Kevin Meister and the team at RBK Services can deliver to the high standards we are looking for, which is why we are happy to work with them on a wide range of projects."

The latest McDonald's refurbishments have also underlined RBK's ability to work on a variety of projects right across the country.

"Although we are a relatively small

company, we know that we can work with clients and contractors of all sizes, and obviously, McDonald's are a major client," said Kevin. "We're also happy to work with clients anywhere around the country.

"We have worked with Cathedral Interiors on a range of projects, and with McDonald's in different ways for many years. We pride ourselves on the fact that we can offer that level of service to all clients, regardless of location or size."



New course and cause as golf day aims for £150k

Preparations are well underway for our 13th annual charity golf day and clay pigeon shoot, and while the aim of the day – as ever – is to have fun and raise money for good causes, there's plenty that's new this year.

For a start, the golf competition will be at a new venue, the

Langdon Hills Golf and Country Club in Bulphan, Essex where golfers of all abilities can enjoy the 27-hole course. And alongside nearest the pin and longest drive contests, this year there is free entry to our special hole in one challenges, with a top prize of £10,000. For the

non-golfers who don't want to miss out, the ever-popular clay pigeon shoot will be held once again at the Woodman Public House at Stapleford Abbots, with coach transport provided to and from Langdon Hills.

From just over £100, your entry fee will include a full English breakfast served at the Golf Club, lunch at your chosen event, and our evening function in the Langdon Hills Fairway Suite including a three course meal, wine, presentations, fundraising activities and entertainment with top comedian Ian Irving.

There's also a new good cause for this year's event, which takes place on Thursday, May 7. Alongside the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC), which provide 'home away from home', accommodation for families with children in hospital, this year we will also be supporting Georgia's Teenage Cancer Appeal, set up by 13-year-old Brentwood School pupil Georgia Cordery, who has sadly been diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma cancer, a rare muscular cancer.

Having raised more than £140,000 through our previous events, this year could see the total raised for good causes hit £150,000, an achievement which RBK's Kevin Meister puts down

to the fantastic support from friends, clients and colleagues.

"It makes me very proud to say that the support for this event continues to grow each year," said Kevin. "It has gained a reputation as somewhere you can bring friends, colleagues, and existing and new business clients to have a fun and relaxing day, while raising money for deserving charities.

"Many of you will know of the work done nationally by the Ronald McDonald House Charities, and we also wanted to help a local good cause, which is why we are raising money for Georgia's Teenage Cancer Appeal. I hope I can look forward to your much valued support again on May 7."

Special room rates have been arranged for anyone who needs accommodation on May 6/7 at the Holiday Inn Hotel on nearby Festival Leisure Park, and coach transport is also provided to and from Langdon Hills for the evening function.

More details on our chosen charities can be found at www.rmhc.org.uk and www.gtca.info, and if you need any further details about the day, or how to sponsor or make donations, contact Kevin on 01277 230000, or email kevin@rbkservices.co.uk.



DAY FOR GOOD CAUSES: Georgia Cordery, 13, at the launch of her appeal with (left to right) footballer turned commentator Tony Cottee, actor Nick Berry, Eastenders star Elliott Jordan and footballer Christian Dailly; the RMHC logo; and Langdon Hills Golf and Country Club

RBK



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