

CONTROL 
TECHNIQUES

TOP MARKS FOR HVAC DRIVES

MARK EIRE BV | FANS & PUMPS

DRIVE OBSESSED

VARIABLE SPEED DRIVES WITH IMPROVED ENERGY

Mark Eire BV, part of the Mark Holding Group, is Ireland's leading manufacturer of a wide range of standalone and integrated air handling units and heaters for commercial and industrial premises.

Overview

- Compact drives
- All majors fieldbus connectivity
- Energy savings

The Challenge

Finding a compact yet powerful drive was essential for Mark Eire as the units have a high throughput.

Competitors' drives can be up to 50% larger by volume with panel footprints typically more than 40% bigger, which could not be accommodated, so the company sought another solution.

The Benefit

The switch to variable speed drives improved the energy efficiency of the air handling units, precisely matching fan speed to the actual air demand.

The Commander drives are also very quick and easy to set up. Electrical Technician, Brenda Curran, said, "It's just a matter of a couple of minutes. We use the autotuned feature, where the drive sets up the basic parameters itself. We simply set the minimum speed, usually 38 Hz and the maximum 50 Hz. The display shows diagnostics too. Final set-up is carried out on site since air volumes are rarely exactly as quoted and this is very easy to do."

The Solution

Paraic Ó Conaola, Purchasing Manager at the plant explained: "From the outset, we used Control Techniques Commander drives, then switched to the next generation Commander when the range was introduced.

Whilst price is important in this very competitive market, the physical size of the drives is a crucial factor. The Commander drives are so compact that they can be integrated into the air handling unit itself, eliminating the need for a separate cubicle. In commercial and industrial premises, space costs money!"

The increase in the power to size ratio of the Commander has been achieved by a radical rethink of drive design and much of this is down to new technologies and composite materials used in the drive's enclosure.

"We are very pleased with the support we get here in Ireland from Control Techniques, with good delivery times, excellent training for our staff and, of course, competitive prices."

Paraic Ó Conaola | Purchasing Manager

