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CASE STUDY

The Library at CERN



Introduction

The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), one of the world's largest and most respected centres for scientific research chose FG Library & Learning to design, manufacture and install their library.

The Library is at the heart of CERN and plays a key role in supporting scientific research in the Organisation. It offers a range of services, including a quiet space to study and think.

This case study outlines the successful transformation of The Library at CERN into a vibrant, inclusive, and technologically advanced space that caters to a diverse range of needs.

Challenges

Since its conception in the 1950s, the use of the library space at CERN has changed dramatically, and the time had come for a makeover to meet the requirements of a modern library. This included furniture quality and ergonomics as well as addressing environmental and safety concerns.



Objectives

- Design a space that offers a variety of casual and formal reading and study positions.
- To reduce the carbon footprint of the library by installing state-of-the-art cooling and ventilation systems and modern LED lights.
- Improve the comfort for library users by fitting rooms out with modern, high quality furniture.
- Create a modern, flexible and motivating environment for work, study and collaboration.
- Introduce sleek, integrated charging points for laptops, tablets and phones.



The Solution

- A premium Latitude library shelving system was installed throughout the library with an elegant oak finish.
- Face-on display shelving was implemented in the book shop and display and store shelves for the periodicals to show off the items.
- A bespoke solution that integrated a new HVAC system into the shelving system ensured that the clean aesthetic of the space remained consistent.
- Orangebox soft seating was selected because of the quality and proven seating solutions for this type of environment.
- Different types of signage were designed in-house at CERN and printed by FG Library & Learning in the UK to suit the various types required, including bay headers, canopy signs and magnetic shelf labels.



Technology Integration

- All study desks had a clean, cable-free look with dividing screens, offering an element of privacy and workspace division.
- Bespoke cut-outs were made into the desks so users can plug in their own devices. This also accommodated locally sourced power modules.





Premium Shelving Throughout





Orangebox Soft Seating Areas





Clean, cable-free look on all desks



Delivery, Installation & Project Management

A Project Manager and Installation Supervisor visited the site prior to the installation to meet the site team, assess access and the working conditions to make a note of any requirements and ensure a smooth installation.

A team of four installers met two arctic lorries that were sent from two of a FG Library & Learning's UK production facilities.

Multiple site meetings and site surveys took place, working with mechanical and electrical services, civil engineers and local architects. The client received regular site updates throughout the week and progress reports.

FG Library & Learning adhered to strict site health and safety requirements and expectations throughout the process.

In Summary

FG Library & Learning visited the site to formally hand over the project and walk through the installation with the client team.

The staff were very complimentary on the handover walkaround and subsequently we have received some extremely positive feedback now the space is being used.

There is no doubt the refurbished library has added significantly to the CERN site, giving a modern, flexible and motivating environment for students, staff members and professionals to study, work and collaborate within.





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