



**GENT**  
by Honeywell

## **SWIFT FIRE & SECURITY BOOK INTO NEWCASTLE CENTRAL LIBRARY**

Newcastle Central Library has re-opened after a £40.2 million transformation and a three year closure.

The landmark building required a state of the art fire protection system that would not only protect employees and the public but the 150,000 new books and priceless collections, which date back to the 1480s.

Swift Fire & Security, a Gent by Honeywell Technology Centre, was awarded the contract thanks to the intelligent technology solutions offered by Gent's Vigilon fire alarm system and S-Quad multi-functional sensors. Together, they offer a flexible system which can deliver safety on a large scale and ultimately locate and identify real fires quickly and easily, reducing false alarms.



Swift's regional sales manager, Gerald Watson, said: "The Central Library has been billed as one of the biggest civic buildings to have been built in Newcastle since the Civic Centre in 1968, so we were delighted to win such a prestigious contract. False alarm management was a critical requirement, therefore having a system that could significantly reduce the risk was essential.

"We also needed to install effective fire suppression measures and alarms to minimise the risk of damage to the collection."

Built over six levels, Swift commissioned one, six-loop Vigilon panel with repeater panel and 114 S-Quad multi-function devices offering advanced dual angle optical sensing technology that recognises the distinction between fire-like occurrences such as steam and an actual fire, as well as loop powered sounders and high intensity strobes.

The S-Quad sensors can be programmed to ensure that the type of detection in the sensor best meets the environment in which it is operating. The advanced sensing technology and powerful software processing ensures the Vigilon system identifies false inputs that do not match a real fire pattern and as a result are ignored or flagged up.

The Vigilon control panels have a simple user interface with LCD screen providing accurate information in an emergency.

The S-Quad offers four different functions in one device, combining sensor, sounder, voice alarm and strobe capability, reducing the number of units and cabling needed to deliver a comprehensive system.

A key architectural feature of the Newcastle Central Library is large open atria, to protect this area Swift also installed 3 pairs of S-Quad beam sensors – which are the only loop powered analogue addressable beams on the market.



The filtering built into the S-Quad beam sensor – which has the look and feel of the S-Quad range and fits onto the same base as other sensors in the series – is such that it can distinguish between an obstruction and the signature of a fire; therefore it has greater immunity to non fire events resulting in a dramatic reduction in false alarms.

Traditionally, installing a light beam sensor required at least two people in order to align the sensors and find the optimum signal strength. However, a key feature of the S-Quad beam sensor is that one person can easily install the sensor thanks to a series of LEDs, which indicate optimum alignment between the transmitter and receiver.

Gerald said: “The S-Quad beam certainly leads the way in infra-red beam technology. We found it extremely flexible and easy to adapt as part of our overall fire solution.”

Swift Fire & Security is one of five Gent approved Technology Centres and is one of over 60 independent fire specialists around the UK and Ireland who work as part of the Gent 24 Approved Network.