

# Case Study

## Offices



## Exchange Station, Liverpool

### Facts about the project

Exchange Station, Liverpool, United Kingdom

Architect: BDP Manchester

Contractor: Styles and Wood

Project size: 74 Bespoke Baffles

Project value: £12,000

Products: Ecophon Freedom Hygiene™ Baffle Hook

Exchange Station in Liverpool opened in 1850 and was one of the biggest mainline railway stations in the North West. The last train pulled out in 1977 and in the 1980's it was turned into a 190,000 sq ft office complex called Mercury Court. The façade was preserved so the exterior of this Victorian building still retains its grandeur.

In 2013, developers Ashtenne Space Northwest set out to give this private sector office space a new lease of life. The refurbishment has used the station's original grand archways to create an atrium main entrance to the 5,500 sq ft concourse area. Meanwhile, the interior has been completely transformed to accommodate 21st-century business, technology and networking requirements, as well as coffee shops and a gym. The complex has also been renamed Exchange Station.

Ecophon's Lindsay Beck worked closely with Jonathan Towers of BDP, Architect and interior designer for the refurbishment of the open plan atrium. Lindsay described the challenge: "We needed to find an acoustic solution that would allow the light in through the roof windows."

Jonathan Towers said: "BDP incorporated the use of Ecophon suspended baffles into the scheme at Exchange Station to provide an acoustic and aesthetic treatment to the central concourse and

to help prevent glare. Previously, the space had suffered from excessive reverberation and the existing steel trusses presented an opportunity to locate an acoustic system at high level.

Working with BDP's design, Lindsay focused on the size of the panels and coordinated with Ecophon UK technical team on how best to hang the baffles. She explained, "While bespoke Solo™ Freedom baffles were specified, they were factory fitted with Hygiene™ baffle hooks. This was because Hygiene hooks are longer so could go deeper into the panel to ensure they would be properly supported. We did this as the baffles were bespoke and quite large so we wanted to be sure they would be secure."

Talking about the finished result, BDP's Jonathan Towers explained: "Ecophon worked closely to assist us in specifying a suitable product that could be factory cut to a bespoke profile from standard panels, producing a dynamic and playful design that was cost effective. Everyone involved with the project is delighted with end result and the baffles have played a large role in the transformation of the space."

For more information please contact:  
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