

Jewers Doors Helps Open New Wales Air Ambulance Heliport

Wales Air Ambulance has just installed an electrically operated multi-leaf sliding folding Osprey hangar door to their new purpose-built helicopter hangar at Llanelli, Carmarthenshire. The new hangar is integral part of their new headquarters due to be completed later this year, and will be a fully operational airbase housing the South Wales helicopters as well as the charity's administration centre.

Speed, ease of operation and security were the main factors for the design of the doors. Wales Air Ambulance service manager, Mark Winter commented, "Wales Air Ambulance provides one of the most advanced emergency services of its kind in Europe. When we receive an emergency call-out, the hangar doors



must open quickly so the helicopter can be airborne with the minimum delay. Security is also an issue as the new hangar can house two expensive helicopters as well as state-of-the-art medical equipment."

Manufactured and installed by Bedfordshire specialist Jewers Doors, the doors are electrically driven with each half operating independently. For speed of response, the doors open automatically on the single push of a button and are fully open in approximately 30 seconds. For reasons of safety, the doors can only be closed by a continuous push of the



close button.

Jewers' Director, Mark Jewers commented, "Doors of this size are a standard product from Jewers' Phoenix range, and it was natural that the door be designed with two bi-parting sections with 8 leaves sliding and folding to each side of the opening. The beauty of the Osprey

door is the way it slides across the opening and only folds as it reaches the sides, ultimately

folding into a footprint no more than 1m² behind each jamb which leaves the full 15-metre wide by 5.75-metre high opening clear for helicopter access. This means helicopters can be parked right up to the door without the risk of obstructing the doors during operation or damaging the aircraft. Integral security design features include automatic locking when closed and anti-lift top tracks.”

Winter added, “The new doors are one of the purpose-built features which will help Wales Air Ambulance complete its missions more efficiently. Our new base at Llanelli is Wales Air Ambulance’s first owned home and building it would not have been possible without the generous donations and support from the people of Wales. We receive no direct funding from the government, so we still have more fund raising to do to complete our new headquarters and to carry out our daily life-saving operations.”

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Editor’s Notes

Hi res images available on request

More about Jewers Doors

Established in 1983 and still a family run business, Jewers Doors is a world-leading supplier of industrial doors operating from a state-of-the-art facility in the heart of Bedfordshire. With over 50 highly skilled and experienced staff, the core of the business is design, manufacture, installation and repair of industrial door solutions across all industrial sectors. The Phoenix range of doors are designed for medium to large industrial applications, while the Esavian range is recognised as one of the world’s leading range of aircraft hanger doors. Incorporating the very latest concepts and technologies, Jewers Doors have been installed not only in the UK, but also throughout the world including Europe, Middle and Far East and New Zealand.

For more information visit www.jewersdoors.co.uk

More about Wales Air Ambulance

Wales Air Ambulance is an all Wales charity providing emergency air cover for those who face life-threatening illness or injuries. There are three helimed crews based in the North (Caernarfon), Mid (Welshpool) and South (Swansea) of Wales. Each crew has of one pilot and two advanced life support paramedics who are trained in the latest techniques in pre-hospital emergency care to ensure the patient receives the most effective treatment.

The charity needs to raise £6 million every year to operate the service. The charity raises all the funds required for the day-to-day running of missions, with each mission on average costing £1500. Wales Air Ambulance is funded by the people of Wales; we rely entirely on the public’s support to help keep the helicopters flying. The charity does not receive direct funding from the government and we also fail to qualify for National Lottery funding. The money is therefore raised through charitable donations, fundraising events and membership of our in-house Lifesaving Lottery.