

Case Study

Zurich House Portsmouth

Client – NWP

Project - Student Accommodation, Portsmouth

Sector - Education



A derelict building in the heart of Portsmouth has been transformed into a 1,000-bed student residence.

Zurich House on Stanhope Road has been refurbished and a 12-storey extension built beside it to help fill the housing demand for University of Portsmouth students.

Contractor, NWP, has opted for a large quantity of bespoke units from Marco using the manufacturer's Juno trunking product. The bespoke option, a preferred specification for many student accommodation schemes, will support the wider project approach, enabling the contractor to simply slot the units in place.

Kate Knox, Key Accounts Manager at Marco Cable Management explained: "We aim to support our clients throughout the process be it in terms of product delivery, customer service or bespoke orders. With a UK-based manufacturing facility we're able to adapt our products easily, creating and supplying bespoke orders, as was the case here.

"We're seeing an increasing appetite for a pre-fabricated method, particularly in the student accommodation development sector and are pleased to be able to offer a bespoke solution that fits with this concept."

The project involves the conversion of the local landmark office Zurich House to provide 405 bedrooms, and the construction of a new purpose-built, 595-bedroom student accommodation block extension, close to the railway station, with ground floor retail. It will also boast a newly landscaped public boulevard that opens on to Victoria Park.

The imposing curved black; Zurich House has stood empty since the insurance giant abandoned the building in 2007.