



## Floating Homes

Vent-Axia was delighted to provide the MVHR system for an innovative Floating Home prototype designed by Baca Architects.



Lo-Carbon Sentinel Kinetic BH

With a housing shortage in the UK and an increase in building on flood plains, or land at risk of flooding, the Floating Home offers an exciting house building solution. Inspired by canal living and designed by Baca Architects, the 'Chichester' prototype model was built by Floating Homes Limited and is not a houseboat but a house that floats. Situated on a residential mooring on a disused canal which runs alongside Chichester Marina in West Sussex, the Floating Home was built in two separate parts, the floating foundations and the modular superstructure and then assembled on the canal. The whole build took four months to complete and fit out, including installation of Vent-Axia's Sentinel Kinetic BH MVHR Unit.

Essentially the home was built in the same way as one on land but the foundations float. However, given the close proximity to water there was potential for more humidity than a land-based home, as well as the potential for reflections of the sun to enhance solar gain. Both these factors were considerations when specifying the Sentinel Kinetic BH MVHR unit.

Built Environment Technology Ltd designed and commissioned the ventilation system for the project. Richard Porteous, Senior Projects Manager at Built Environment Technology Ltd explains: "Due to the very low permeability of the home's envelope mechanical ventilation was essential. The Sentinel Kinetic BH MVHR Unit had the right eco-credentials for the project, plus it is very compact and features an integral humidity sensor and summer bypass, which were important for the Floating Home."

"Having lived in and visited houseboats that did not have MVHR it was clear that this technology was essential for the air quality and sustainability of our floating homes. We also specified Vent-Axia for its reputation, Vent-Axia has been at the forefront of ventilation for over 80 years, and is a British manufacturer of high repute. Of course they fit the Floating Homes ethos!"

Ideal for low-permeability properties

Recovering up to 90% heat energy

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Mark Junak from Floating Homes.