

# UNDERCOVER

ALL THE LATEST NEWS, CASE STUDIES AND INFORMATION FROM COPRISYSTEMS

## Going dome-shaped keeps MFI staff happy



**Installing one of CopriSystems' largest dome-shaped canopies has enabled major furniture supplier, MFI, to significantly improve logistics at its national distribution centre.**

MFI's national distribution centre at Northampton operates a 24-hour service, receiving goods from all over Europe for delivery across the UK. Loading in all weathers and dealing with such high volumes was

increasing the number of wet damage claims - and creating increasingly unhappy staff.

MFI has several CopriSystems canopies installed at sites around the country before the company installed this super-wide dome-shaped loading bay canopy, the first of this size. By providing environmental protection and an undercover sorting area, the canopy has improved working conditions for

staff and keeps goods dry.

The warehouse canopy - 32m wide, 22m long with a central height of 9m - is located at the receiving end of the site. It is attached to the main warehouse, covering four large roller shutter doors, and has been kept open at the front for ease of vehicle access. Importantly, the canopy has no central column, allowing free movement throughout. Vehicles drive into the canopy, load or unload, and

drive out. Goods are then broken down, sorted and sent out to smaller warehouses for distribution.

MFI looked at several different options before deciding on a CopriSystems warehouse canopy. "We are certainly very impressed with it," said Des Whatton, Maintenance Manager. "It has provided us with a large protected loading and sorting environment"

## Wall-to-wall space

**Did you know Christmas is peak sales time for carpet? One of the UK's largest distributors of carpet and flooring knows.**

Landsdon distributes thousands of carpets every week from its Alcester warehouse. Increasing business created the need for more permanent undercover space for loading and unloading vehicles and moving stock around, particularly during the pre-Christmas and summer season sales peaks. Within three weeks of order,

CopriSystems had a 24m canopy installed and fully operational on site.

"Speed was of the essence with our first canopy," notes Mark Jones, Commercial Manager. "CopriSystems provided a solution very quickly, enabling us to manoeuvre stock around easily, improving warehouse efficiency."

Attached to the end of the warehouse, the Landsdon canopy is 70cm higher than standard, allowing the use of high-reach forklift trucks.



Landsdon has recently installed its second CopriSystems canopy.

## Canopy protects and stores

**To protect and store its bagged products, Appleby Group turned to CopriSystems.**

Scunthorpe-based Appleby Group is a major supplier of ground granulated blast-furnace slag to concrete, screed and mortar manufacturers. When bagged, ground slag, like cement, will set if exposed to moisture and requires protection from the elements. CopriSystems has installed a 21m by 20m steel-framed canopy adjacent to the bagging unit, providing protection of bagged product ready for shipment and

allowing easy access and loading by forklift.

"The canopy was installed with minimal disruption to site operations and is ideal for our needs," notes Brian Smeaton, Group Engineer.



## No rats in my store

**RPC needed a new store for incoming goods - and with 40% of product going to the food industry it needed to be rodent proof.**

Following the sale of nearby land and buildings used for storage, rigid plastic container manufacturer, RPC, installed a CopriSystems canopy. The 30m by 18m canopy is 5m high, allowing free movement of forklift trucks to stack pallets four high. To comply with

environmental health regulations, CopriSystems sealed three walls of the canopy to the ground and installed a SR dock shelter at the front, preventing weather ingress and to ensure a rodent proof warehouse.



## News From CopriSystems

Welcome to our latest newsletter where you'll find our buildings finding new uses: from military helicopter maintenance to garaging a theme park train, warehouse logistics to indoor tennis courts.



Our new 16-page brochure shows the breadth of building styles and sizes for industrial applications, from dock shelters to canopies 24m wide and telescopic domes 36m wide. It also boasts essential technical and other useful information. And, for the first time, sports and leisure applications get their own brochure, showing domes kitted out for tennis, swimming and basketball.

Contact CopriSystems for a copy of either of these brochures.



We've given our web site a makeover: more information, more case studies and more news. Get building solutions fast with the new Request-for-Quotation facility. Speed planning applications with downloadable CAD drawings. Visit [www.coprisystems.com](http://www.coprisystems.com) to find out more.

## CopriSystems



COVERING TECHNOLOGY

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# First class covers



Following a review of internal systems, the Royal Mail found it needed something more than a marquee for storing letters

A recent review of internal mail flow systems at the Royal Mail's Gloucester Distribution Centre identified a logistics problem. Mail sort letters - prepaid posting controlled by the Post Office -

needed to be stored prior to delivery; a more durable solution than the marquee used to cover peak Christmas deliveries was needed.

"We wanted a building that was effectively permanent, quick to install but could eventually be taken down when not required," comments Gordon Davies, Network and Collections Manager.

"CopriSystems installed a storage canopy to our exact specifications and within the given timescale."

Now, the Distribution Centre keeps the mail dry and flowing out through its fleet of over 100 mail vehicles delivering to all points in the Gloucester area.

## CopriSystems upgrades it's rigid profile PVC cladding system

**Time - and cost-efficient building solutions to your space problems**

Creating new undercover space often meant deciding between conventional construction - with its attendant long building times and high costs - or temporary buildings that may not meet your specific. Modular buildings were rarely considered as they often exhibited the same failings of both. No longer.

CopriSystems' new rigid profile PVC cladding system combines proven structural steel framing with advanced pre-fabricated insulated panels to produce buildings that are highly economic in time and cost - short-term and long-term.

Panels are constructed from thermo set polyurethane foam sandwiched

between ridged coated-steel sheets. The result is a lightweight rigid panel with inherent structural strength and exceptional fire resistance.

Panels are easily attached to CopriSystems' galvanised steel framework and joined together with a single fixing. Joints are completely weather-tight, providing no scope for interstitial condensation and creating a warm, safe and secure envelope. Less footings are needed to support the low weight of the finished structure, significantly reducing the cost and time for site preparation - and speeding the availability of the covered space for fit-out and occupancy.

Contact CopriSystems for more information on the new rigid profile PVC cladding system.

• **Modular and lightweight**  
Maximises building design options, reduces site preparation time and cost

• **Fast installation**  
More pre-fabrication means a quick, simple build in days not weeks with minimal crew

• **Insulated**  
Stronger, warmer, reduced condensation

• **Durable**  
40-year life expectancy, vandal-proof and withstands all weathers

• **Versatile**  
Stands alone or attaches to existing buildings, mates with CopriSystems canopies and raised dock shelters

• **Fire Resistant**  
Outperforms other modular construction techniques in BS fire tests



First to install a CopriSystem's new insulated rigid profile PVC cladding building was Homerton University Hospital. Tailor-made to suit the linen and handling needs of the hospital, the design includes roller shutter doors and extensive racking.



Food Containers demonstrates the inherent strength in a CopriSystems building by replacing the original covering with rigid profile PVC cladding.



## On the right track

**Leading rail freight logistics specialist, The Potter Group, has installed a CopriSystems canopy to provide undercover offloading of weather-sensitive goods.**

The Potter Group handles imported goods as diverse as lard, chipboard and paper from all over Europe. Prior to completing their new rail-connected warehouse, discharging

these weather-sensitive goods was a slow process. CopriSystems has installed a 45m long canopy system that straddles the heavily used onsite tracks and connects to existing buildings. The canopy was five metres high to allow it to house rail wagons from Switzerland whilst unloading large rolls of paper into store.

"Since the opening of our new rail-connected warehouse, the CopriSystems canopy has been instrumental in improving the service to customers," notes George Winstanley, Operations Manager. "It also gave us an excellent head start in handling our customers' paper products."

## Dock shelter or draught excluder?



**CopriSystems' dock shelters installed at Dunelm's central distribution centre make the loading operation safer and save money.**

Following the move to its new Burton-on-Trent central distribution depot, soft furnishing retailer, Dunelm, installed 10 CopriSystems dock

shelters in its loading bays. Facing west, the loading bays catch the prevailing winds, causing costly heat loss and raising concerns about damage to goods. By adding a metre to the standard dock, CopriSystems has given drivers extra stopping time and more room for handling large deliveries.

"The dock shelters protect the goods in and out and have significantly reduced heat loss in the warehouse," notes Mark Griffiths, Project Manager. "And, by preventing wind whistling into the work area they have provided a superb draught excluder."



Leading supplier of high quality metal walkways, grilles, lintels and meshes to the construction industry, Expamet, has installed a CopriSystems canopy to provide undercover truck loading and unloading as well as additional storage space.



"Our CopriSystems canopy brings clear safety and quality benefits," states Richard Bell, Engineering Director at St Regis Paper. "Adverse weather leads to wasted man hours protecting paper reels, delays distribution and builds a backlog. Trucks get better traction on the dry surface and means our customers are assured of product quality"

## Apache makes overnight reservations



**MOD firing ranges are not known for their hi-tech aircraft hangars so Westland Helicopters called up a CopriSystems freestanding canopy.**

The new Apache Helicopter is destined to be a major tool in the MOD's weapons arsenal but first it has to pass all its tests. This extensive trials programme is taking place on an MOD firing range where there are no suitable facilities nearby

for maintaining such a hi-tech helicopter; however, maintaining the tight test schedule was crucial.

"With tight deadlines and budget, CopriSystems delivered to our specifications, timescales and price," notes Clive Rogers, Programme Engineer Apache Trials. "The canopy enables detailed servicing of the helicopter throughout the trials and provides reliable shelter from wind and rain."

## Buildings within buildings



**Is it strange for a leading manufacturer of modular buildings to seek a solution from CopriSystems?**

Demand for Rollalong's modular buildings grew by 50% in just 18 months, creating a major space problem in production; the company needed additional undercover space fast. Within a week, CopriSystems installed a canopy 24m wide, 41m long and 5m high, complete with heating and lighting.

"The canopy enabled us to increase production by 30%, releasing space

which otherwise would have been under utilised," comments Rollalong's Operations Director, Ray Scogins. "Importantly, CopriSystems could supply the canopy in the shortest lead time."

Up to four stories high, Rollalong buildings are manufactured in segments up to 15m long with all internal fittings and heating systems installed. Completed segments are assembled at the company's Wimborne factory and stored undercover prior to delivery to site for erection.



"Renting a canopy means we can have exactly what we need without the upfront investment in bricks and mortar," says David Bartlett, European Logistics Manager at Ocular Sciences. "CopriSystems has helped improve the whole logistics of our Romsey sales and distribution facility"

## Environmental solution - covered

**Compliance with environmental waste management regulations need not be expensive and time consuming for vehicle salvage companies.**

New regulations on draining fluids from cars meant vehicle salvage company, Nevendon South East Cars, needed a new building. Waiting for a new building to be built was not an option so the company called in CopriSystems who installed a fully operational canopy within six weeks. The canopy is fully retractable and,

importantly for NESC, could be relocated if required.

"We take environmental issues seriously and want to be ahead of the game," says Partner in NESC Tony Brown. "The CopriSystems building provides the ideal, economic solution."

NESC collect and store insurance write-offs until permission comes from the insurance company to dismantle the cars, sell any useable parts and scrap the rest. New environmental regulations outlaw the previous practise of collecting oils



and other noxious fluids in an ground interceptor trap and allowing water to flow freely. Now, salvage companies must drain all fluid onsite and undercover before disposal.

## Give a skip a good home

**Anxious to avoid environmental pollution, TRW Aeronautical Systems installs undercover protection for its skips.**

The aerospace industry may be hi-tech but it produces waste just like any other. TRW Aeronautical Systems at Hemel Hempstead produces around five skips of waste steel and other materials every week. Protecting the skips with a folding CopriSystems canopy made sound operational sense.

It is important to prevent rainwater collecting in the skips. Rainwater

increases overall skip weight and recycled waste is sold by weight. The scrap metal is often covered in oil and oil spillage into drains can cause pollution and blockages.

CopriSystems installed a fully retractable canopy, 9m wide, 11.5m long - capable of covering five skips - and open at both ends. Running on tracks, the canopy can be opened easily by two men when skips need replacing.

"CopriSystems came up with the ideal and most economical solution," states Terry Maylin, Senior Project



Engineer at TRW Aeronautical Systems. "It supports our efforts to minimise the environmental impact of our business, it's easy to use - and being able to fold it is a real bonus."

## Going bananas - environmentally

**The man from Del Monte says: "Yes" to a CopriSystems canopy to protect packaging material.**

Inside Del Monte's state-of-the-art refrigeration facility at Wootton Bassett bananas ripen prior to distribution. Consequently, packaging material was stored outside, exposed to the weather.

"We needed a more flexible solution and investigated several options,

including a garage-forecourt design," notes Operations Manager, Martin Gibson. "CopriSystems provided the ideal solution."

Measuring 13.6m by 15m, the 5m-high freestanding canopy has been installed open at both ends - without curtains or doors - for easy access. Now, the man from Del Monte's packaging is well protected from the environment.



# CopriSports & Leisure

Tennis • Horse riding • 5 a side football • Swimming pools • Multiple sports uses

## Double covers boost membership

**When CopriSystems installed its largest sports cover, Greenacre Leisure had high hopes for its racquets facilities. Eighteen months on, the Club has seen a significant boost in membership.**

In 2001, the Greenacre Leisure Health and Fitness Club in Newbury invested £800,000 in improvements and modernisation, including the installation of four tennis courts with revolutionary porous acrylic surfaces. Two CopriSystems covers have been joined together to protect the courts, and lighting to the highest standards

has been installed, providing an ideal playing environment for tennis 24/7 whatever the weather.

Measuring 36m by 37m and 9m high, the design allows the sides to be opened to a height of 2m along the full length of the court, increasing ventilation and providing a cool environment in the hottest weathers. The two covers are maintained in tension to ensure a smooth finish and joined along one side by a series of arches and supports creating an open plan interior.



"When we installed the covers we wanted to provide a greater variety of facilities to our members" says owner Steve Thompson. "We now have a successful and thriving tennis programme that has helped us grow in

strength and appeal in the Newbury area."

Subscriptions and club membership numbers are up, three full time coaches provide a full coaching programme, and there are separate

group sessions and numerous club nights all year round. The versatility and flexibility offered by the court covers open the way to indoor football and hockey if demand increases.

**CopriSystems has delivered a 21st century solution to a prehistoric problem by supplying a canopy to protect Alton Towers Theme Park's two Ug Family fire service floats from the elements. Damien Varley of Alton Towers commented: "CopriSystems provided a long, tall and narrow building adapted to the unique float shapes."**



## Undercover service

**Installed as part of a major redevelopment by Sedgeford Racquets and Fitness, a CopriSystems canopy is allowing tennis 365 days a year - and increasing membership applications.**

Norfolk-based Sedgeford Racquets and Fitness embarked on a £800,000 redevelopment project to significantly increase facilities for its tennis-playing members. The Club now boasts additional indoor and outdoor tennis courts, two squash courts, an aerobics studio, gymnasium, new changing facilities, sauna, spa, steam room and a new sports shop.

Covering the indoor tennis court is a CopriSystems canopy 18m wide, 36.5m long and 9m high at the centre. The translucency of the dome's white PVC cover allows daylight play without the need for artificial lighting - reducing running

costs - while the olive green sides provide a high-contrast background for yellow coloured balls.

"Our club is in an exposed coastal location so ensuring we provide the best tennis amenities for our members is a tough call," says Graham Tinkler, Director. "The CopriSystems canopy is structurally sound, durable and, most importantly, conforms to LTA specifications. Installing the fixed model gives us all-year round weather protection with the option to open the sides during the summer."

CopriSystems' fixed domes have 2m high sliding side curtains along the whole length of the structure for improved ventilation and increased audience viewing, with just a roofing system to shield the glare of the sun. Aesthetically designed, the cover is fully tensioned, extending longevity; all systems comply with BS 6399.



Sedgeford Racquets and Fitness boasts some of the best tennis equipment and facilities in the UK. The new courts use an acrylic surface identical to that used in the 1999 Davis Cup and similar to those in the Australian and US Opens. Already home to the largest youth tennis

training programme in the area, the CopriSystems cover will allow even more young people the chance to play quality tennis all year round. Graham continues "Who knows, we may have a young Tim Henman practising his service under it right now."

## Marina magic

**Providing undercover areas for boat storage and maintenance requires a special type of building, one that Brighton Marina understands completely.**

Boats come in all shapes and sizes. Some can be carried by hand or moved around on trolleys; some require craning onto place. All will require maintenance at some time. When Premier Marinas upgraded Brighton Marina it needed flexibility

and versatility in its new Boat Shed. CopriSystems delivered.

"The new Boat Shed provides a excellent and flexible working environment as well as a versatile exhibition space for Marina use," states Tim Mason, Managing Director of Premier Marinas. "CopriSystems canopies are part of the future of marinas and Premier is proud to be at the forefront."

Measuring 6m high, 15.2m wide and 24m long, the rail-mounted galvanised steel frame building is covered with a white PVC-coated polyester fabric for maximum translucency to natural light. This also allows the whole building to fold back, allowing larger boats to be craned into position and the building then drawn back, fully enclosing it for maintenance and repair. Smaller boats can be easily moved through the full-width curtain-style doors. A flow-coated epoxy floor and electricity, water and compressed air services complete the installation.

