

## The Company

The Biddle name has been associated with heating and innovation since 1929 when FH Biddle joined Mumford Bailey and Preston Limited as Company Secretary. In the same year the company established a joint venture with Trane (USA), with the objective of manufacturing and marketing convection heating equipment in the UK. This was a major advancement in the provision of heat and a year or two later 'British Trane Co Ltd' introduced industrial unit heaters to the British market.

In 1941 the company's London premises were blitzed, forcing a move to Silesby in Leicestershire. Then in 1943 FH Biddle acquired the company in a management buyout and changed the name to the British Trane Co after buying a 50% share in the business.

The manufacturing base of the British Trane Co was established in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, in 1946 and by the mid-1950s a new company, FH Biddle Limited, was selling the products.

With FH Biddle Limited's technical, estimating and research capabilities combining well with British Trane's manufacturing facilities the company went from strength-to-strength. The group, now known as FH Biddle Limited, established offices and showrooms around the world and head office was moved to Mayfair in London.

In the 1960s the company's factory in Kootstertille in the Netherlands was purchased.

Biddle continued to trade from the original Newtown Road factory in Nuneaton until 1985, when the company moved to its present site at St Mary's Road, Nuneaton.

Until recently the Biddle Group of Companies was owned by the Biddle family. However nowadays the Company is part of Carver PLC - a Midlands based group of manufacturing businesses.

With annual sales in excess of £12million the Company still has research and manufacturing sites at Nuneaton in the UK and at Kootstertille in the Netherlands, and also has sales offices in France, Germany, Belgium and Canada.

Both manufacturing facilities are fully accredited to the highest quality management standards, with the Nuneaton site already certified to ISO 9001:2008 also ISO 14001:2004.



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Newtown Road, Nuneaton, Factory Early 1950s



Kootstertille, Netherlands



St. Mary's Road, Nuneaton

# Biddle Air Systems

# The Products

Within the building services industry the Biddle name is recognised and respected as a leading European business specialising in the supply of high performance and 'engineered to last' Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Air Curtain products and solutions. Specifically the product range comprises:

- fan coils
- fan convectors
- cassette heaters
- unit heaters
- commercial/retail air curtains
- industrial air curtains

all of which have been developed following rigorous programmes of research and development.

Although traditionally the products have used water as the source of cooling and heating (and occasionally electric element heating) we now have available gas fired unit heaters and industrial air curtains.

# The People

With its 'Investors in People' accreditation the Company has a policy of educating, training and supporting all employees. Biddle is one of the few companies to still provide apprenticeships to school leavers, and it is not unusual for sponsorship to be provided for individuals to undertake management development programmes. In recent years all our engineers have undertaken extensive training in the use of state-of-the-art 3D CAD software.

Nationwide customer support and technical back-up is provided by a team of people based in the Nuneaton sales office, and by our external sales force who are skilled in providing solutions specific to each customer's requirements.

# Our Customers

Over the years many of the most prestigious Engineering Consultancies, Contractors and End-Users have come to rely on Biddle for its uncompromising approach to product quality and customer service.

Some of our recent clients include:

- |                    |  |                       |   |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Retail:</b>     | Asda<br>Debenhams<br>House of Fraser<br>Waitrose         | <b>Bank/Finance:</b>  | Arthur Andersen<br>Royal Bank of Scotland<br>Halifax<br>Midland Bank                      |
| <b>Leisure:</b>    | UCI Cinemas<br>The Savoy<br>Chessington Zoo<br>Champneys | <b>Manufacture:</b>   | Rover<br>Courtaulds<br>Rolls Royce<br>Bird Eye Walls                                      |
| <b>Commercial:</b> | P&O<br>Eurostar<br>Heathrow Airport<br>Canary Wharf      | <b>Public Sector:</b> | University Northumbria<br>Stirling University<br>Worcestershire CC<br>Heartlands Hospital |



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