



News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 23rd FEBRUARY 2009

Armitage Shanks chosen for Hillingdon Hospital Pilot Ward

HULL, UNITED KINGDOM – [Ideal Standard International](#), a leading provider of innovative, design-driven washroom solutions for hospitals has sponsored the brand new Bevan Ward at Hillingdon Hospital, London with products from its' [Armitage Shanks](#) and Trevi brands.

The Bevan ward is a brand new 24 bed unit comprising 100% single room accommodation with en-suite bathrooms. The ward has been designed and developed to the latest Department of Health best practice guidance. Patients have the experience of being treated in surroundings with greater privacy; for staff it gives the opportunity to work in bright facilities with 3 different room configurations designed to assess their preferences.

The idea for the Bevan ward was first conceived by the clinical staff when the trust began thinking about redeveloping Hillingdon Hospital. Single accommodation was a top priority as Ray Quinn – Re-development Programme manager – Clinical services – explains, “When I stay away in a hotel I don’t expect to share my room with 23 other people... why should I do so when I am sick?”

Bevan is a pilot ward which will be used to assess the effectiveness of single room accommodation and used as a training area to retrain nursing and support staff in working in this new environment. In particular, research will evaluate the prototype unit alongside wards in the present hospital and other NHS hospitals for comparable groups of patients with respect to effects on outcomes including:-

- Healthcare associated infection
- Patient safety
- Noise levels
- Bed occupancy and length of stay
- Patient privacy
- Staff workload and walking distances
- Hospital revenue costs

The design of each bedroom with en-suite facilities aims to provide greater accessibility and space for the moving and handling of patients. Accessibility is suitable for most patients whether independent wheelchair users or those requiring dual assistance for use of the en-suite bathroom.

The unit incorporates an innovative new design for an en-suite bathroom developed by the Department of Health in 2006. The layout utilises space within the bedroom for manoeuvring and handling patients through the incorporation of double folding doors. For instance, a ceiling hoist is built into 6 of the 24 rooms with tracking leading straight into the bathroom for more convenient faster access to toileting and showering.

Each en-suite incorporates an [Armitage Shanks](#) wet room showering area with a Trevi Logical electronic shower. The shower comes with a separate remote control handset allowing patients or carers to pre-programme temperature settings at the touch of a button to ensure water is at the correct temperature before entering the shower. Displays on the handset have purposely been designed to be simple and easy to read with intuitive control displays.

For the WCs, Hillingdon has opted for the new [Armitage Shanks](#) Contour 21 Back-to-wall Rimless pan and concealed cistern. Rimless WCs are considered more hygienic

as the bowl is completely exposed inside for cleaning with no crevices for bacteria to thrive. The suite takes advantage of the latest flushing technology allowing the pan to be flushed on only 4.5 litres of water. This will represent a 25% saving of water compared to a standard WC. The WC is complete with the Contour 21 toilet seat which has been designed for robust use and includes seat buffers to keep the seat extra stable during transfer from a wheelchair or hoist to the toilet.

The basin in the en-suite is the [Armitage Shanks](#) Portman 21 – a 50cm wall hung basin with an Armitage Shanks Contour 21 thermostatic sequential basin mixer. This mixer has the advantage of a built-in thermostat which ensures safe water delivery and avoids the build up of water between the fitting and thermostat, common with traditional swan neck installations.

Within each bedroom there is an [Armitage Shanks](#) Contour 21 clinical back outlet basin for use by staff. Each basin is used with an [Armitage Shanks](#) Markwik 21 thermostatic sensor fitting giving automatic delivery of water when activated by the hands of a user. Markwik 21 are designed to reduce the havens for bacteria and cuts out the dangers associated with the dead leg of water. They are easier to service and disinfect due to the easy access to the front of the panel. The range now includes Insulate technology which provides the added benefit of additional insulation to keep the body of the tap cooler, ensuring the body of the mixers remain cool even after prolonged use, therefore eliminating the risk of scalding.

“The design of the pilot ward has been very much influenced by a special Ward design group which was set up at the start of the project. This includes representatives from nursing, doctors, facilities, planners, IT and procurement staff. It was important we covered everybody and didn’t miss anything out.” says Ray Quinn.

The ward opened on Sunday 25th January and is now in full use. “This development represents a complete leap in thinking,” says Ray Quinn “Huge progress from the current wards made up of 6 bed bays and the open Nightingale Wards we have in the rest of the hospital.”

Speaking for Armitage Shanks, Marketing Manger Tony Rheinberg comments, " We are delighted to be involved in this important project. We completely support the ethos behind the design of the ward and are pleased that Hillingdon have selected our most up-to-date range for the project. The products were designed with the help and advice of professionals and it is particularly pleasing to see them in use in such innovative settings."

For more information on Armitage Shanks please call 0870 1228822 or visit www.thebluebook.co.uk.

~ends~

For further information, visit or www.thebluebook.co.uk or contact:

Jenny Williamson,

+44 7795 665802 (mobile)

+44 1482 499637 (direct)

jwilliamson@idealstandard.com

-ends-

About Ideal Standard International:

Ideal Standard International, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, is a privately-owned company, operating independently in Europe, Middle East and Africa and Asia Pacific. The company also has presence in Central and South America via a joint venture called Incesa. With bathroom solutions as its core business, the company provides bathroom furnishings, fixtures and shower enclosures for residential, commercial and institutional buildings. Its products are sold under its strong international brands Ideal Standard, Jado and American Standard (Asia/Pacific and Incesa), as well as leading local brands including Incesa Standard (Incesa), Armitage Shanks (UK), Ceramica Dolomite (Italy), Porcher (France and Incesa) and Vidima (Eastern Europe). The company employs some 17,300 people and is operational in over 30 countries. Ideal Standard International is governed by a Board of Directors.