

Case Study:

ARD Studio London

An installation of 14 acoustic doors with varying performance ratings and finishes



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ARD TV & Radio is the largest public service broadcasting company in Germany with many different TV and radio channels. Set up in a similar fashion to the BBC in the UK, they are funded by licence fees. With studios around the globe, producing and editing anything from regional news to voiceovers, their facilities need to be of the highest available performance. The new base for ARD posed a unique challenge due to the number of studios, control rooms and voiceover booths all located within a close proximity.

Katja Theile, Production Manager of ARD Studio London said “our new facility in London was retrofitted into a space suitable for recording lots of different media at the same time. With space at a premium, each recording environment needed to be acoustically isolated from one another.”

With 14 doors installed at the studio, all with differing levels of performance, the challenge was manufacturing and installing the doors within a very tight timescale set by the studio designer and project manager, White Mark. Derek Buckingham, Architectural Director of White Mark said “We had been given a very tight schedule to follow as ARD needed the new building up



and running extremely quickly. IAC were a pleasure to work with and very efficient when it came to the installation and working with other on-site contractors.”

Most of the installed doors were equipped with DDA approved vision panels, however some were solid in the case of small TV studios to minimise external light. Some areas of the building required fire proofing and were fitted with IAC’s range of BS:476 fire rated doors.

The finished headquarters have been very well designed, combining chic minimalist open spaces, complemented by high performance, state-of-the-art studios, control rooms and recording facilities. Katja summarised, saying “We are very pleased with the final result at

our new London base; it is a really pleasant environment to work and performs outstandingly.”

Kane Watkinson, Product Director for acoustic doors & windows commented “We know that the doors provided by IAC are of a superior quality to our competitors. In recent years we have focused on making the installation of our products as seamless as possible. Doors and windows are usually installed when a building is still taking shape. Minimising the disruption to other on-site trades is always an important factor in any smooth building project; White Mark recognising this, highlights the level of service which IAC provides for every installation.”



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