

SBS Merseyside recently supplied Isotubi stainless steel pipes and fittings to customers Townley Hughes for use on The Tobacco Warehouse development, a Grade II listed building situated adjacent to The Stanley Docks, Liverpool.

Built in 1901, The Tobacco Warehouse was at that time claimed to be the World's largest building. It is the largest brick-built warehouse in the world, occupying 36 acres, is 14 stories high and utilising 27 million bricks. The building fell into disrepair in the 1980's and despite a period where it housed a Sunday market, it has pretty much been unused since. This project saw the renovation of the warehouse into retail units and residential flats, costing £130 million.

The Mechanical Installation was undertaken by SBS customers Townley Hughes who have chosen to utilise the Isotubi Stainless Steel Press System for the main domestic and heating services distribution for the project.

Not only is this a project filled with interesting and historical features, it is also a very challenging one. However, the choice of the Isotubi system has alleviated some of the usual problems associated with large bore pipe work installations, in that it is available from 15mm – 168mm diameter with press fittings. By having this available as stock, SBS has assisted Townley Hughes, with the challenges of access, lifting and handling, bracketing, support and hot works requirements of welded steel installations.

Isotubi's stainless steel NUMEPRESS system has a maximum working pressure of 16 bar. The range are both BSi and WRAS approved and are manufactured to meet EN10217-7 and EN10312 standards.

Suitable applications include potable water, gas, heating, plumbing, solar, compressed air, steam, fire protection (sprinkler) and mining. The system comes with a 25-year warranty.

For this installation, our product specification manager provided training on how to install Isotubi to the Townley Hughes Installation Team. After a few weeks, he returned to the site, and was amazed to see the amount of pipe work already installed, which was done to a very impressive standard.

The apartment design has been carefully considered and the original construction features have been imaginatively and considerately incorporated into the finished living spaces.