

# Zip HydroTap right on the money

The historic Grade II listed Treasury Building in Great George Street, just around the corner from the Houses of Parliament in London was badly in need of refurbishment and in some areas required re-building.

The building which sits at the southern end of Whitehall was built at the turn of the 20th century in Portland Stone and housed staff on six floors with a further three basement levels.

The refurbishment and re-building scheme was identified as a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project. The PFI is one of the main mechanisms through which the public sector secures improved value for money in partnership with the private sector. Through PFI, the private sector is able to bring a wide range of managerial, commercial and creative skills to the provision of public services, offering potentially huge benefits for the Government. The private sector PFI partners for this prestigious multi-million pound project are Stanhope/Chestertons/Bovis Lend Lease.

Architects, Foster & Partners, created an extra 40 per cent of space within the west half of the building and incorporated a library, kitchen, fitness rooms and auditoria.

Throughout the new refurbishment, staff amenities include a number of 'tea points' that provide a range of refreshment facilities. Despite the fact that these facilities include vending machines, it was decided to provide staff with the convenience of boiling water to make their own hot drinks. As safety and energy consumption were concerns, it was determined

that kettles did not provide the best solution for boiling water. At the same time, the tea point environment meant that any boiling water heater needed to be situated out of site below the sink.

There was only one solution to this problem, the Zip HydroTap, and the contractor Swift Horsman was commissioned to install fourteen B30 units throughout the building.

To complete the loop, HM Treasury's facilities managers are currently considering entering into a full ongoing service contract with Zip Heaters to maintain the equipment and install additional Zip instant boiling water heaters in future refurbishments. ■

