

# Case study 439

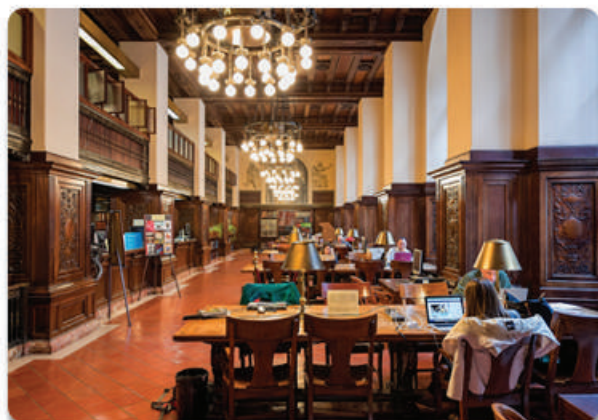
## Humidification protects historical library books

In order to guarantee the safe storage of precious books and documents, you must first look to instil a stable environment by controlling the humidity and temperature of a chosen area. The fluctuation of either variable can be caused by a number of external factors, and this will have a detrimental effect on delicate materials if not tackled appropriately. Failure to address the issue quickly will lead to books, files and manuscripts being damaged – and subsequently more susceptible to further deterioration as time passes.

The facilities management company in charge of a leading Scottish university had become concerned about the condition of historical material held in their library. This included rarely used books, back issues of valuable journals, reference maps and special indexes, all of which hold hygroscopic qualities. In this scenario, deploying a series of humidifiers was unquestionably the best solution and would help preserve the contents of a poorly ventilated and dry room.

After thoroughly assessing the customer's requirement, an Andrews expert proposed the use of ten H60 humidifier units to measurably increase moisture content in the air. These state-of-the-art products have been purposefully designed for use in this type of application and can ensure relative humidity is kept between the desirable values of 45% and 65%.

Changes in the moisture content of a storage archive may not lead to the effects becoming immediately visible, but over an extended period of time these will become more noticeable. Age is one of the main characteristics that prevents fragile items from readjusting to their internal moisture level without any damage. It was therefore essential that a reliable humidification system was constantly operational within the library in order to protect the shelf life of our client's precious books and papers.



Duty Rated 30% rh. 21°C 2.5 litres/h  
Air flow (max) 800m<sup>3</sup>/h  
Power supply 230V 1ph 50Hz Run.23A  
Noise level 29 dBA @ 1 metres  
Weight 18.8 kg empty 52.8 kg full  
Dimensions (mm) 625 x 316 x 720  
Reservoir capacity average 34 litres  
Power consumption 53 W/h  
Control Integral humidistat



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