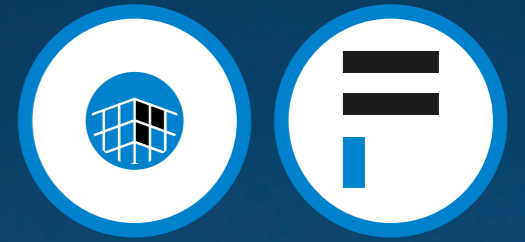


the **fds** group

Design, Install, Maintain

**t** +44 (0)1322 387 411  
**f** +44 (0)1322 386 361  
**e** info@fdsuk.com

[www.fdsuk.com](http://www.fdsuk.com)



the **fds** group

# Design, Install, Maintain



**The FDS Group** delivers end-to-end fire safety solutions – from CFD Modelling through to design, installation, commissioning, and ongoing maintenance.

**About Us / 07**  
**Accreditations & Certifications / 10**  
**Computational Fluid Dynamics / 20**  
**Design & Installation / 22**  
**Commissioning / 28**  
**Maintenance / 30**

# About Us



## About Us

### Group Overview

**The FDS Group is a leading supplier of high-quality, cost-effective fire safety systems, providing a complete end-to-end service encompassing CFD, design, installation, commissioning, service and maintenance.**

Our areas of expertise include computational fluid dynamics (CFD) modelling; mechanical and natural smoke ventilation; car park ventilation; corridor environmental systems; fire alarm and evacuation alert systems; PAVA air aspiration systems; and the maintenance of fire alarm and smoke ventilation systems. We work with clients with requirements ranging from basic design advice to innovative turnkey solutions for large-scale, mixed-use building projects. In doing so, we enable clients to create safer environments while at the same time optimising space utilisation, helping them achieve their design vision and ensure full compliance with all relevant building regulations.

As one of the UK's leading turnkey fire safety specialists covering CFD, design and installation, we understand – and are able to meet – the requirements of the different parties involved in the development of commercial and residential projects. We work with developers to maximise saleable building space through innovative fire safety solutions. We develop creative solutions to help architects and consultants meet their objectives in terms of aesthetics, legal compliance, cost and efficient use of space. We provide comprehensive design and installation and maintenance support to contractors on some of the largest commercial and residential projects in the UK.

# About Us

## The History of FDS



**2002**

The FDS Group is founded  
Employing their fire engineering expertise, Gerard Sheridan and Andy Riley design an innovative 0.5m<sup>2</sup> mechanical smoke ventilation system.



**2006**

Smoke ventilation experts  
FDS contributed to CIBSE guide E (2006). FDS assisted the London District Association in gaining approval from the Smoke Control Association for their fire safety document.



**2010**

The company grows and wins first major award  
Building Control Industry Awards Independent Systems Installer of the Year winner.  
Completes the United House HQ and Rochester Row projects.



**2017**

Celebrates 15-year anniversary



**2019**

Controlling Smoke for a Clearer Future  
FDS hosts its largest ever CPD event in London with over 70 attendees.



**2024**

FDS's Associate Technical Director, Simon Sheldon spearheads the new SCA Guidance for Electrical Control Equipment in Smoke and Heat Control Systems.

**2003**

FDS opens first office in London  
FDS commences work on its first smoke ventilation project; Paddington Walk.



**2012**

Wins CN specialist awards - Fire Protection category  
Completed work on prestigious commercial project New



**2007**

Greenhithe office opens  
Opens office in Greenhithe, Kent which becomes the head office for the company.



**2018**

As of 2018, FDS has completed 1,500 projects with a 100% on time completion rate



**2020**

The FDS Group restructures  
To better suit their clients' needs FDS restructures, creating new company divisions.



**2025**

Dan Foster appointed as the Managing Director of The FDS Group. A new Board of Directors were also appointed.



## About Us

### Our Accreditations & Certifications



## Our Insurances

### From Concept to Completion

At FDS Group, our comprehensive insurance cover is more than a requirement, it's a commitment to protecting our clients, their projects, and everyone involved.

We hold a robust suite of insurances that provide reassurance at every stage of your project:

**Professional Indemnity** – Protects you against risks associated with design, consultancy, and technical advice. It ensures that if anything doesn't perform as intended, you're covered.

**Employers' Liability** – Guarantees that our team is fully protected while working on your site, giving you confidence in safe, compliant project delivery.

**Public Liability** – Covers any unforeseen incidents involving third parties or property, ensuring your project – and reputation – are safeguarded.

**Products Liability** – Provides protection related to the systems and components

we supply, giving you peace of mind that installed products meet performance and safety expectations.

**Contract Works Insurance** – Protects the works in progress, covering against damage or loss during the build phase so your project stays on track.

What does this mean for our clients?

Reduced risk. Protected investment.

Complete confidence that you're working with a partner who takes responsibility seriously, from design through to delivery and beyond.

# About Us

## Group Values



Dan Foster  
Group Managing Director

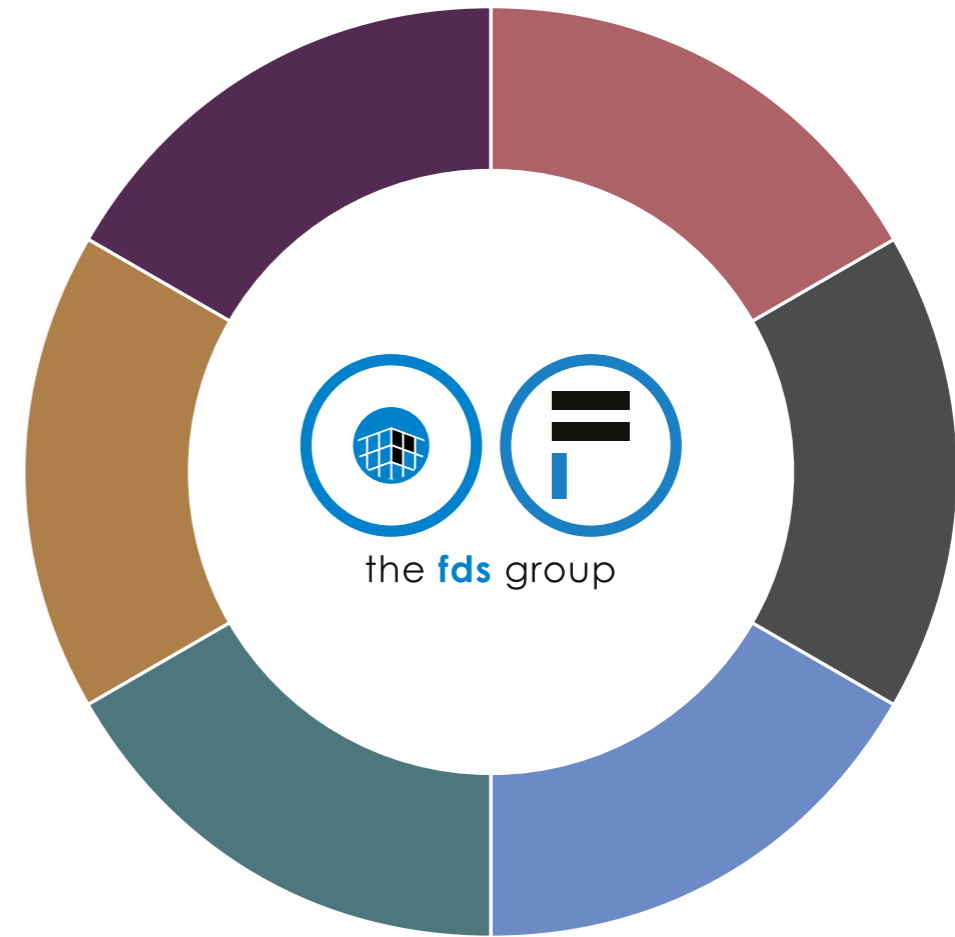
**We are dedicated to delivering excellence across fire alarm systems and smoke ventilation – from CFD Modelling, design, installation and commissioning through to service and maintenance. We are leaders because we are specialists. Decades of expertise and innovation allow us to recommend the best possible solution and tailor it to the individual needs of every project.**

Founded by fire engineers with the aim of delivering consultancy, design and installation excellence, FDS Group remains at the forefront of creative, collaborative delivery of fire safety solutions and continually innovates to drive the industry forward.

Our values inform everything we do and are why hundreds of developers and contractors have relied on us to design and implement systems crucial to the success and safety of their buildings.

Our people are at the core of our business. The expertise and dedication of each member of our team helps us ensure the best possible service for every one of our clients across the project life-cycle and is why we are always forging new relationships.

We offer a truly holistic approach across all stages of the project cycle. Meaning our clients are able to use one provider for all their fire safety needs.



**Capability**  
Bespoke turnkey solutions: design, commissioning, installation, service & maintenance

**Range**  
Extensive range of systems ensures best possible solution for every installation

**Competence**  
Industry authority delivering innovation-driven solutions based on in-depth experience

**Trust**  
Proven expertise and market leadership in reliable and effective fire safety systems

**Support**  
Service, maintenance and technical support with emergency response 24/7/365

**Value**  
Intelligent, value-engineered systems providing cost-efficient solutions

# About Us

## Our Senior Leadership Team



**Dan Foster**  
Group Managing Director

The Group and our expanding portfolio of business units will remain under the leadership of our Managing Director, Dan Foster, supported by our newly promoted Group Directors. Together, they are driving continued growth, maintaining high standards across the Group, and ensuring we deliver a consistent, customer-focused service.

At FDS Group, we are redefining fire safety through expertise, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to our clients. To meet diverse industry needs and align with the Golden Thread, we have structured our expertise into specialized divisions: FDS CFD, FDS Contracting, and FDS Maintenance—supporting projects from inception to occupation and beyond.

We provide industry-approved services that meet the highest standards, including SDI 19 certification for installation of smoke ventilation systems and we are in the process of gaining BAFE for fire alarms. Our core values—capability, competence, and trust—drive us to deliver fire safety solutions that ensure full compliance and safety. With an integrated approach spanning consultancy, design, installation, commissioning, and ongoing maintenance, we deliver excellence at every stage.

As industry leaders, we bring fire engineering expertise across fire alarm, smoke ventilation and evacuation alert systems, delivering effective, reliable solutions supported by comprehensive fire safety consultancy.

Our mission is simple: to deliver the highest standard Turnkey solution to our clients. Through trust, excellence, and innovation, FDS Group is the partner of choice for developers, contractors, and specifiers across the UK. Together, we build safer futures.



**fds** contracting



**fds** maintenance



**Nick Jeary**  
Group Operations  
Director



**Martin Ives**  
Group Sales & Estimating  
Director



**Matt Allard**  
Group Finance Director



**Simon Sheldon**  
Associate Technical  
Director



**Simon Williams**  
Associate Project  
Director



## About Us

### Why Choose The FDS Group?

**Technical excellence is where it starts but we go further. As well as making people safer, we also work to ensure that clients have complete confidence in the solutions we develop to meet the challenges of their particular buildings and locations.**

Our role is technical; using advanced products, design expertise, and fire safety knowledge to protect people. We've designed and installed fire protection systems on numerous projects, sharing best practices across our teams to maintain exceptional expertise. We continuously innovate, refine systems, and invest in R&D to improve safety in all buildings. Our in-depth understanding of fire codes and building regulations ensures compliant, reliable systems with swift approvals. As of 2025, we have completed over 10,000 projects.

Competency is central to our work. With the Building Safety Act and BS 8670 series highlighting the need for skilled contractors, we embed competency throughout our process. Our engineers, designers, and project managers are industry qualified, backed by SDI 19 certification, setting an

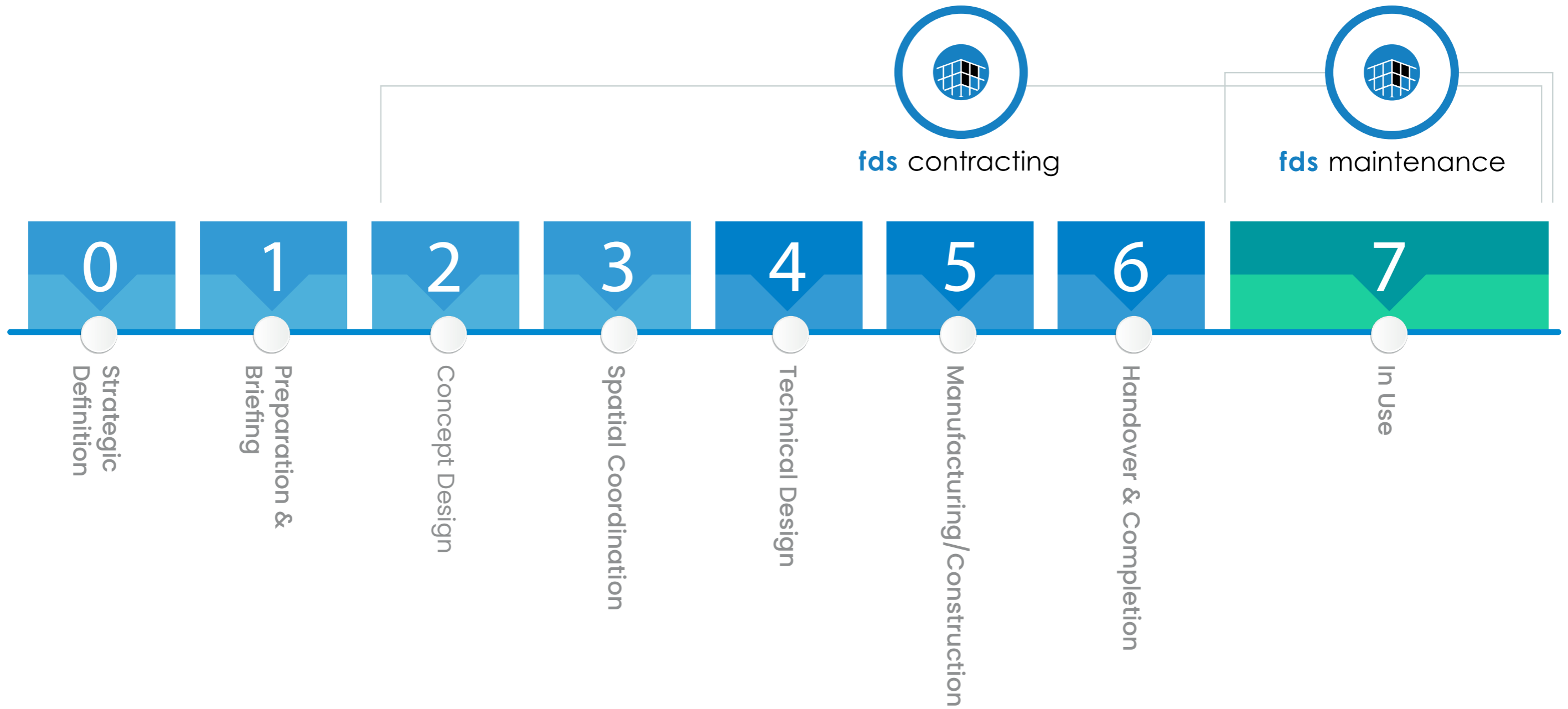
industry standard for smoke ventilation system design and installation. This certification ensures compliance with standards like Approved Document B and BS 7346.

In recent years, we've also collaborated with the Smoke Control Association to produce the SCA Guidance for Electrical Control Equipment in Smoke and Heat Control Systems and Guidance on the Maintenance of Smoke Control Equipment, further demonstrating our commitment to industry leadership.

As members of the Smoke Control Association, we help raise industry standards and ensure top-quality, reliable, and compliant solutions. Our clients trust FDS for systems that meet the requirements of the Building Safety Regulator and stand the test of time.

# About Us

## The Golden Thread of Service



# FDS CFD

## Computational Fluid Dynamics Modelling

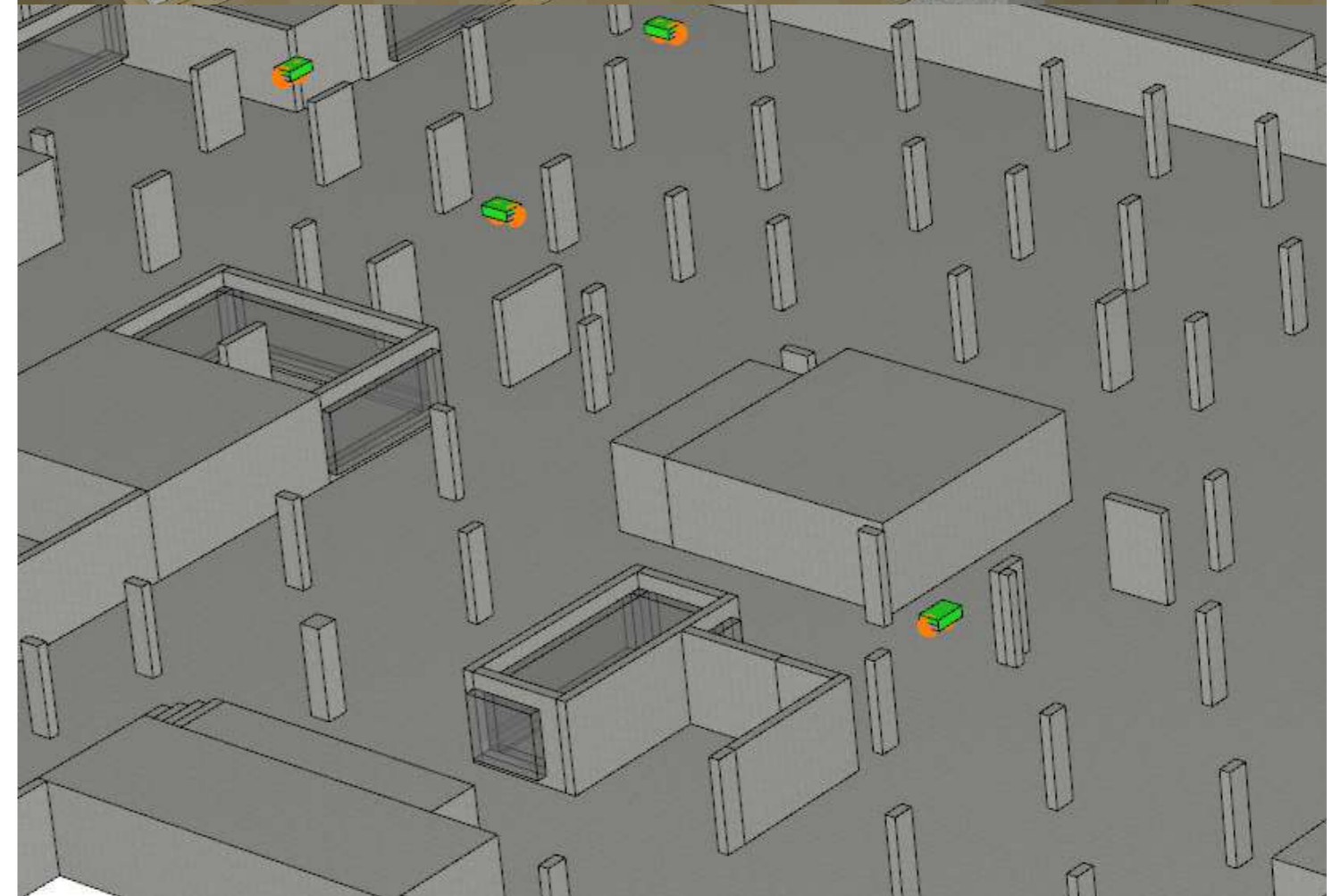
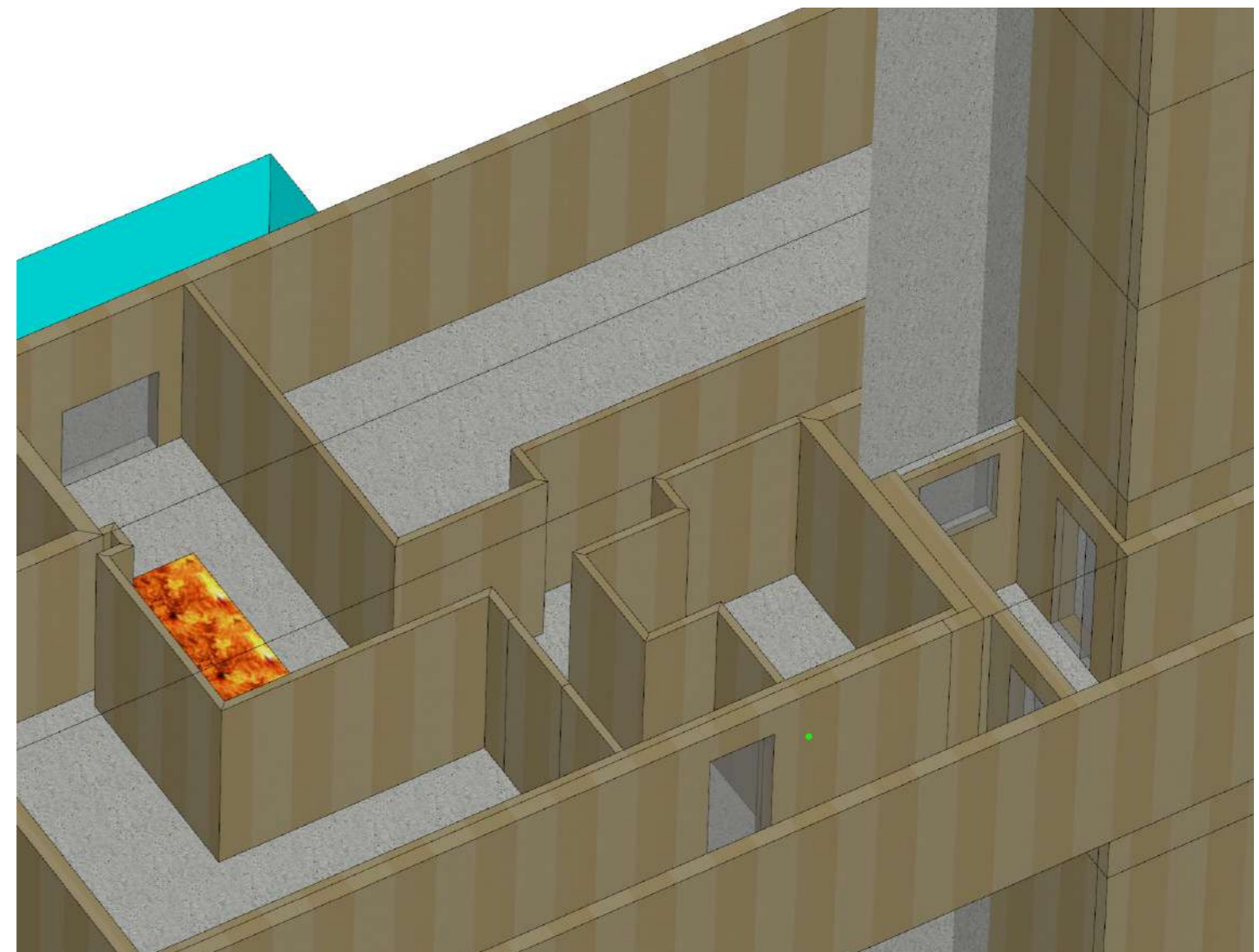
**Computational Fluid Dynamics Modelling (CFD) is a specialist design tool we use to validate and optimise smoke ventilation performance in complex buildings. It enables us to simulate smoke movement, airflow patterns and fire conditions within a development, so we can assess system behaviour in detail and confirm the design will perform as intended.**

CFD is particularly valuable where a fire-engineered solution is proposed that sits outside prescriptive guidance or where the design requires additional technical justification. Our team translates the modelling outputs into clear, professional reports suitable for submission to the Building Safety Regulator and Building Control, supporting the project through the approvals process, including Gateway 2 where required.

CFD modelling goes beyond simple rules of thumb by showing how smoke accumulates, how temperature and visibility change over time, and where pressure differentials may develop in complex environments such as open atria, tunnels and interconnected floors. This level of insight supports the development of robust fire strategies and helps demonstrate how proposed systems — such as smoke ventilation and pressurisation — will perform under real fire conditions.

CFD is increasingly used to support performance-based fire design where prescriptive guidance alone doesn't address the complexity of a building or its intended use. It provides evidence that safety objectives — such as maintaining tenable conditions for evacuation — are met, and enables designers to justify decisions where engineered approaches differ from standard regulatory paths.

Our CFD services include performance-based smoke modelling, providing detailed simulation of smoke movement, temperature, visibility and tenability to validate engineered fire strategies. We produce comprehensive reports to support Gateway 2 and Building Safety Regulator submissions, ensuring designs are evidence-led and approval-ready. We also offer independent third-party peer reviews of external CFD models, verifying methodology and conclusions to strengthen compliance, reduce risk and provide additional assurance to clients and approving authorities.





# FDS Contracting Smoke Ventilation & Fire Alarm Design

**By working with FDS Contracting, you gain access to a team that understands the intricacies of modern regulatory frameworks such as Planning Gateway Two and delivers designs that pass the most rigorous scrutiny**

FDS Contracting delivers a complete smoke ventilation design service, tailored for Gateway 2 submissions. Our fully coordinated design packages include integrated smoke control, evacuation alert and fire alarm schematics, supported by professional reporting to meet Building Safety Regulator requirements.

We design smoke ventilation systems that maximise usable space while ensuring full compliance, helping to achieve a cost-efficient solution without compromising occupant safety. Every project is approached with precision and attention to detail, resulting in high-quality, reliable designs tailored to the unique needs of your development.

Backed by our in-house fire engineering division, clients benefit from direct access to highly qualified consultants, strengthening technical outcomes and improving overall project value.

We work closely with fire engineering consultancies to ensure CFD modelling is fully aligned with the wider fire strategy during Gateway 2 submissions. We help create a coordinated, evidence-led submission that meets Building Safety Regulator expectations.



## FDS Contracting SDI-19 Certified Installers

We pride ourselves on the expertise of our team of engineers and project managers as well as our SDI-19 certification.

These certifications, recognised across the UK, ensure that every smoke ventilation and fire alarm system we install is completed to the most stringent industry standards. It underscores our commitment to safety, quality, and compliance.

Our experienced Smoke Ventilation and fire alarm system Installation team ensures the process is carried out professionally and to schedule. Working on the simplest installation to complex applications, they ensure your project is delivered on time, within budget and to the highest standard of professional care.

Experience with large and complex developments ensures our Smoke Ventilation and fire alarm Installers can meet accelerated build schedules, conduct phased handovers, and coordinate work with fellow contractors.

Our client-focused approach is why we count many of the UK's largest developers among our continually growing portfolio of repeat clients.

Different projects require varying Smoke Ventilation and fire safety needs depending on their sector. However, fundamentally, the goal remains the same - to provide

emergency smoke clearance in the event of a fire. Our consultancy, design, installation, commissioning and maintenance services cover the following sectors:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Educational (Student Halls etc.)
- Data Centres
- Leisure Centres
- Hotels



Dean Thomas  
Business Development  
Manager

[dthomas@fdsuk.com](mailto:dthomas@fdsuk.com)  
**07760 785599**

# FDS Group

## Systems Overview

There is 'no one-size-fits-all' approach to smoke ventilation. The individual characteristics of every building and the requirements of each project mean that different approaches and systems are required. At FDS we help you to select the option that is most suitable for your project and ensure you have the design, installation and commissioning support that you need.

### Mechanical Smoke Ventilation

MSV Systems consist of powered fans attached to ventilation shafts. In the event of a fire, dampers on the affected floor open and the fan activates to evacuate the smoke.

### Car Park Smoke Ventilation

These systems serve a dual purpose of day-to-day ventilation to provide the required air quality as well as the evacuation of smoke in the event of a fire.

### Natural Smoke Ventilation

A simple smoke venting solution, these systems utilise Automatic Opening Vents (AOVs) or windows and the natural flow of air through the building to draw the smoke out.

### Fire Alarm Systems

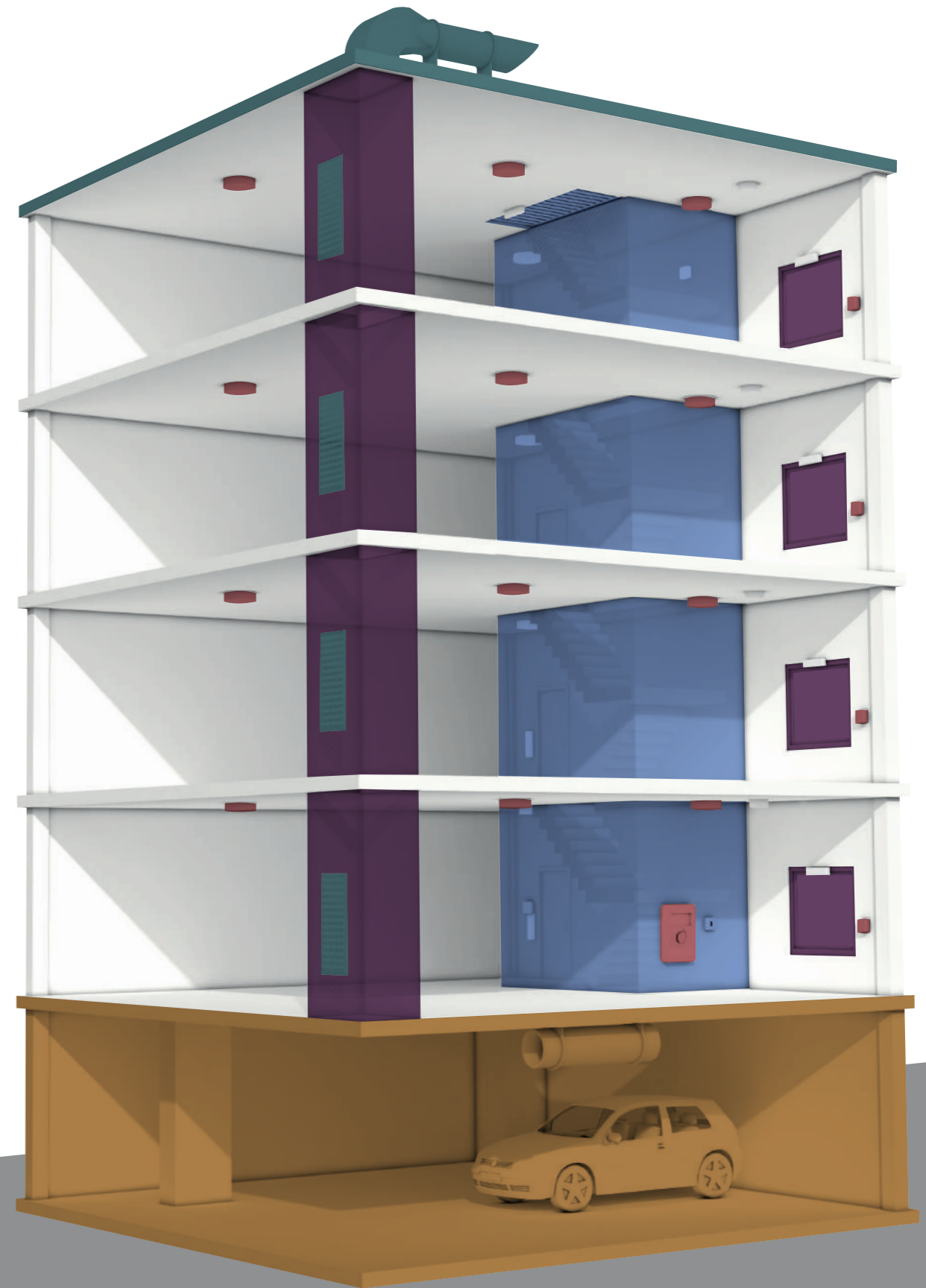
Automatic fire alarm systems constantly monitor the building's environment to provide early warning to occupants and alert authorities to a potential fire.

### Corridor Environmental Systems

Ventilation is achieved through the mechanical extraction of heat from the common areas to combat the natural build-up of heat that can occur.

### Evacuation Alert Systems

An Evacuation Alert System is an essential part of any residential building to allow the Fire Brigade to evacuate occupants in a controlled and safe manner.



# FDS Contracting

## Smoke Ventilation, Fire Alarm & Life Safety System Commissioning

**Our expert commissioning service ensures developers and building owners have complete, expert support both during the build and upon completion of the building.**

At FDS Contracting, we commission and test smoke ventilation systems in accordance with BS 7346-8:2013—Smoke Control Systems, helping to ensure compliance, functionality, and a smooth handover process. Our team of project managers and commissioning engineers will ensure the smoke venting systems are installed on time and to the highest level of quality. Our experience of large and complex developments means that, where required, we can meet accelerated build schedules, conduct phased handovers and efficiently coordinate work with other contractors.

Our qualified team of engineers will commission and test the installed smoke vent systems prior to building handover. We will also work with approving authorities to ensure they are satisfied with the system. This includes providing demonstrations of the performance where required.

### **What's Included in Smoke Ventilation Commissioning?**

- Functional testing of smoke ventilation systems in line with design specifications and regulatory standards
- Integration checks with fire alarm and building management systems
- Cause and effect testing to verify system response in the event of fire
- Fine-tuning and calibration to optimise system performance
- Comprehensive documentation and certification for your records
- On-site support during final sign-off or client demonstration

### **Why Commissioning Matters**

Proper commissioning not only helps secure Building Control approval but also minimises risk, ensures legal compliance, and provides peace of mind for both client and contractor.





## **FDS Maintenance**

### **Smoke Ventilation, Fire Alarm & Life Safety System Maintenance**

**FDS delivers total life-safety systems maintenance. From smoke ventilation and fire alarms to PAVA, disabled refuge, AOVs, dry risers, environmental systems and more – we maintain every critical fire safety system that protects your building and the people inside it. One partner. Full compliance. Complete peace of mind.**

As part of The FDS Group, we bring decades of industry experience and a proven track record in supporting safe, efficient buildings through expert servicing, responsive support and detailed reporting.

Our approach is built around delivering safe environments for clients and their occupants, with a strong focus on competence, consistency and long-term system performance, and we understand that maintaining critical life safety systems is not just a legal requirement but essential for ensuring buildings operate as intended in an emergency.

Through routine servicing, inspections and testing, we help identify issues early, reduce

the likelihood of failure, and extend the lifespan of key components, while our 24/7 monitoring supports continuous oversight and fast fault identification to minimise downtime and maximise reliability.

Our engineers ensure everything works together as intended. All servicing is delivered in line with recognised standards and Smoke Control Association guidance, with clear reporting to support compliance. With competent professionals and a structured approach, we make life-safety maintenance simple, reliable and effective – so your systems perform when it matters most.

# FDS Maintenance

## Our Services

**Our preventative maintenance support extends the life of a system, reduces the likelihood of equipment failure and ensures all legislative obligations are met.**

Our team of project managers and installation engineers will ensure the smoke venting systems are installed on time and to the highest level of quality. Our experience of large and complex developments means that, where required, we can meet accelerated build schedules, conduct phased handovers and efficiently coordinate work with other contractors.

Our qualified team of engineers will commission and test the installed smoke vent systems prior to building handover. We will also work with approving authorities to ensure they are satisfied with the system. This includes providing demonstrations of the performance where required.



Mark Harris  
Business Development  
Manager

[mharris@fdsuk.com](mailto:mharris@fdsuk.com)  
**07749 417961**

Through our associated businesses we can offer Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RRO) fire risk assessment and, subject to a site survey, a full maintenance service on fire safety systems:

- **Smoke control systems: fan assisted and natural smoke venting systems**
- **Car park ventilation systems**
- **Fire alarm systems**
- **Air aspiration systems**
- **Disabled refuge**
- **Scheduled preventative maintenance**
- **Smoke verification testing**
- **24-hour monitoring systems**
- **24-hour emergency call out**
- **Fully trained engineers**
- **Technical support**





## SMR 01 Certification

### What it Means for our Clients

**For our clients, SMR 01 certification delivers a new level of confidence in smoke ventilation maintenance – providing independent, third-party verification that systems are maintained competently.**

Achieving SMR 01 certification requires a rigorous, independent auditing process designed to assess not just what we say we do, but how we deliver it in practice.

Conducted by Kiwa in conjunction with IFC Certification Ltd (IFCC), the process includes detailed reviews of our management systems, maintenance procedures and documentation, alongside assessments of our engineers' competence. Crucially, it also involves live site inspections, where our maintenance activities are observed in real-world conditions to ensure they meet the required standard. This combination of office-based and on-site auditing provides a robust, evidence-based assessment of our capability - giving clients confidence that our maintenance is carried out correctly, consistently and to a recognised, independently verified benchmark.

In a sector where maintenance quality can vary, SMR 01 replaces uncertainty with assurance, giving you clear proof that your life safety systems are being looked after correctly and remain fit for purpose.

This certification goes beyond paperwork. It is achieved through a rigorous auditing process that assesses our management systems, the competence of our engineers and the quality of work carried out on live

sites. For you, that means every aspect of your maintenance, from planning and documentation through to on-site performance is independently reviewed and held to account. The result is stronger compliance with your legal duties, improved audit readiness and a clear, defensible position when demonstrating that your smoke control systems are being maintained to the required standard.

Ultimately, SMR 01 helps reduce risk and remove doubt. With FDS Maintenance, you're not just meeting your responsibilities, you're able to evidence them with confidence. It ensures your systems are maintained by a provider who has been independently assessed against a recognised benchmark, giving you complete peace of mind that your smoke ventilation systems will perform exactly as intended when it matters most.

# Competency Credentials SDI-19

**Given the strict demand for competent servicing, it's crucial to look at the certifications and qualifications of any provider you engage. In the UK, there are well-established third-party certification schemes attesting to a company's expertise in each domain:**

BAFE SP 203 is a scheme for service providers involved in fire detection and alarm system work. Companies certified to BAFE have proven competence across all aspects of fire alarms such as design, installation, commissioning, and ongoing maintenance. FDS are currently applying for BAFE certification, to which we are optimistic that it should be acquired within the next few months.

Engaging with a BAFE-approved contractor gives confidence that they meet the highest industry standards for fire alarm maintenance.

For smoke ventilation systems, the gold standard certification is the IFC SDI-19 scheme. Developed by the Smoke Control Association in partnership with IFC Certification, SDI-19 certifies that a contractor is competent in installing smoke control systems. It requires firms to demonstrate specialist know-how and compliance with relevant standards (e.g. Approved Document B and BS 7346 parts 4, 5, 7, 8).

The scheme has become mandatory for SCA member companies that install smoke ventilation, raising the bar across the industry. Crucially for clients, an SDI-19 certified provider has been independently audited for their smoke control competence – so you know your smoke control systems are in qualified hands.



**“FDS were instrumental in ensuring we met the tough and seemingly impossible deadline set for us. Their ability to adapt, work efficiently under pressure and support the team has made a significant impact.”**

**Project Manager on Kings Road Park Project / Editquest**