

Product Class Award for Best Interiors Product

Winner:

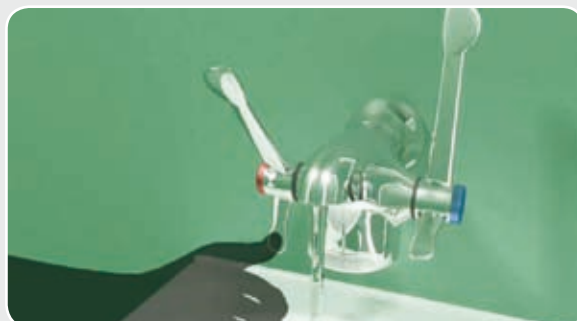
The Optitherm Thermostatic Tap Horne Engineering Ltd

The Optitherm Thermostatic tap is perhaps the most-unconventional and innovative tap ever manufactured and, as a result, was awarded top prize in the best interior product category. The design mastermind of Horne Engineering is a consequence of the high level of functionality required in healthcare applications and has been guided by the published healthcare regulations.

The objectives of the Optitherm design are to raise hygiene levels and facilitate best practice in hand decontamination. The high level of continuity of the outer surface allows easy, effective cleaning. Recesses where dirt could collect are eliminated and no parts can be pulled off to create a dirt trap.

The user has been thought about carefully too. A consistent optimal temperature makes hand washing safe and comfortable. In addition, the flow rate and condition of the delivered water is also controlled; there are significant benefits in an unbroken column of water falling, without splashing, into the wash basin, irrespective of the supply pressure. A surging splash is potentially a disincentive to hand washing. The Optitherm's regulated flow rate of six litres per minute is also highly efficient and reduces the risk of wasted, unrecoverable water and energy. The novel dual-lever arrangement allows the user to open the flow with minimal contact with the tap and close by the forearm or elbow after hand washing is complete.

Highly commended in this category goes to Nightingale Associates for the design of the Norbury Ward lounge chair: a bespoke leather chair to complement the redesign and refurbishment of a communal area in the Intensive Care Unit for adult acute mental health patients at St George's hospital, Stafford.



Shortlist:

Award for Best Interiors Product

artinsite – bedhead boards for Kingston Hospital NHS Trust

Nightingale Associate – Norbury Ward Lounge Chair

ExtraMed A&E Whiteboard and BEDS

Optitherm Thermostatic Tap – Horne Engineering

Haigh SOLO Bedpan disposer

Static Systems Group – Patient Nurse Call Hand Unit

Hinchingbrooke Health Care NHS Trust – Automatic Sliding Doors on Ward Bays

Disposable Cubicle Curtains