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Calorex protects priceless historical records

Calorex dehumidifiers are playing a vital role in the protection of priceless historical documents -- some dating back to Norman times.

The irreplaceable collection of parchments, records, maps and photographs are cared for by the Archives department of Shropshire Council at their Shrewsbury headquarters.

Specialist environmental engineers, Cool Services, specified the pair of OTW15 wall-mounted Calorex dehumidifiers that are maintaining optimum climatic conditions to help prolong the life of the historic artefacts.

Ideal for museums, galleries and all record-keeping purposes, Calorex dehumidifiers provide a reliable and efficient method of solving problems of excess moisture and condensation to ensure the safe storage of irreplaceable records.

Drying by traditional heating involves continuously warming a stream of outside air on a constant 'in and out' cycle equivalent to eight times the volume of the room every hour.

The Shrewsbury archive attracts 10,000 visits annually from members of the public with hundreds of thousands more researching catalogued information via the Internet.

"Almost everything we have here is unique and irreplaceable making them priceless," explains Andrew Davidson, senior conservator for Shropshire Council.

"Much of the material has survived as much by luck rather than judgement and is very vulnerable to moisture and damp, so keeping them in the correct environment is essential."

Dehumidification is much more sophisticated than heating. It



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re-circulates the same air and physically removes moisture from it. This alleviates the need to continuously reheat incoming air. Not only that, a dehumidifier will cleverly convert energy taken out of the room as moisture (latent energy), to create 'sensible energy' that can be used to heat the room, accelerating the drying process. The potential energy savings are huge.

The OTW15 is a compact dehumidifier designed to fit above a standard doorway. Tamper proof controls make the OTW15 particularly suitable for a number of applications including:

- Public buildings
- Changing rooms
- Store rooms and stairwells
- Basements/cellars