

# International Maritime Museum Hamburg Reference



## **3,000 years of maritime history on an exhibition area of 11,500 m<sup>2</sup>**

“Opening of the largest international private collection on the history of navigation and seafaring of Professor Peter Tamm.” The historic Kaispeicher B, a neo-Gothic brick building from the year 1879 and now a historically protected monument, is the oldest warehouse in the Hafencity in Hamburg’s docklands area and was used in its original function as a storage facility for general cargo up until the end of 2003. The building was renovated by the City of Hamburg for approx.

30 million euros between 2005 and 2008 and inaugurated as the International Maritime Museum Hamburg at the end of June 2008 in the presence of Federal President Horst Köhler.

Each of the nine exhibition decks invites the visitor to become acquainted with another aspect of seafaring as well as explorers and conquerors, captains and average sailors. Maritime history is impressively represented from the Greek Triere to Viking ships, from the Hanseatic League to present-day container ships, by a total of 36,000 ship models, numerous construction plans, paintings, graphics and nautical devices as well as maritime objects.

# ESSER

by Honeywell

## The task

Due to the historic building style comprising wood and brickwork, a comprehensive fire protection was required in order to protect the exhibits and the up to 1,200 visitors per day. Since the interior design is mainly made of wood—internal

structural framework, floors and ceilings—as are some of the exhibits, there is a very high fire load as a result, and these were all to be protected. A special solution needed to be found for the archives and the library located in an additionally rented floor of the neighboring

Heinemann-Speicher, in order to protect the enormous number of historic documents not only from the destruction which could be caused by fire but also from water damage as a result of using a sprinkler system.

## The solution

For safeguarding the quay warehouse, the specialized company Plock Elektro GmbH, Westoverledingen, in charge of the installation, decided on an 8008 fire alarm system from ESSER, which is housed in a 19" cabinet in the engineering room of the south tower. Approximately 780 IQ8Quad detectors monitor the exhibition rooms and are connected via 8 loops. O<sup>2</sup>T and TD detectors guarantee for false alarm-proof monitoring in the 3rd floor offices and in the various catering

areas. In addition, the people inside the building can trigger one of 50 manual fire alarms which immediately alert the fire department in the case of a fire. For the protection of the archives and the library, an additional nitrogen extinguishing system is used in order to secure the 120,000 books and 50,000 atlases as well as the innumerable construction plans, films and photos.

A sprinkler system was installed on the remaining floors. Fire doors and excess pressure desmoking prevent

the spread of smoke through the halls.



IQ8Quad O<sup>2</sup>T detector

## The benefits

In the case of a fire, the following control functions are immediately activated by the fire detection system:

- The fire department is informed
- The fire doors are closed in order to prevent the fire from spreading
- All persons inside the building are informed via a loudspeaker system
- The excess pressure system for the desmoking of the two staircases is activated; the escape routes

are kept smoke-free by one fan blower per staircase in order to enable the persons inside the building to find a safe route to the outside

- The corresponding sprinkler-system station is triggered
- Elevator operation is taken over

Should a fire be detected in the archives or in the library via the detectors connected to the extinguishing system, a nitrogen extinguishing

system is activated and a signal is issued to the fire alarm control panel which then, in turn, sends an alarm to the fire department.

This ensures that the comprehensive collection of marine history, which includes letters of the British Admiral Horatio Nelson and the pure gold miniature model of Columbus' *Santa Maria*, can still provide informative insight concerning the life and work of our forefathers to future generations.

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