

EARTHENERGY™



Minehead Community College



An EarthEnergy system has been installed in the new 3 classroom, IT block at Minehead Community College. This is the first ground coupled system to be commissioned by Somerset County Council.

The closed loop ground heat exchanger consists of 1600 metres of "Slinky" coils, installed in 1.8 metre deep trenches. The "Slinkies" are shown here being constructed from rugged, high density, polyethylene pipe. The Slinky trenches were excavated in the adjacent college sports ground, with flow and return headers running back to the plantroom

A reverse cycle, water to water heat pump, feeds an air handling plant via a buffer vessel. Ducted warm or cool air is fed to the classrooms, with fresh air introduced as required. Free cooling is also available by running the air handling plant alone.

The ground loop installation was completed during the summer of 2000, with the heat pump and associated mechanical plant being commissioned in January 2001.

Ground Loop	<i>Trenches</i>
Heat Pump	<i>32 kilowatt Cosfi</i>
Distribution System	<i>Ducted Warm Air</i>
Client	<i>Somerset County Council</i>
Mechanical & Electrical	<i>RTS Engineering</i>
Commissioned	<i>August 2000</i>