

AIRPORT SECURITY AIDS SICK KIDS

Metal detectors normally used to stop guns and knives being carried onto aeroplanes are being used for a very different purpose in Derby Children's Hospital.

Thanks to the generosity of Stanton Bonna, one of the UK's leading concrete pipe companies, the hospital has been able to buy a metal detector – the first for children's hospitals in the East Midlands. The metal detector will help doctors identify whether a child has swallowed metal objects without having to have an x-ray.



Photo left to right - Murray Howitt (Marketing Manager), Paul Fletcher (Fittings), Steve Hallam (Operations Support Manager) from Stanton Bonna, Chipego Hamonga (2), Lilliam Hamonga, Staff Nurse Denise Stinson.

Dr Nigel Ruggins, Service Director at Derby Children's Hospital explained "Parents often bring children to the hospital fearing that they might have swallowed a metal object – usually a coin.

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Previously this would have meant that the child would have needed an x-ray. It's better for children, especially the very young, if they are not exposed unnecessarily to x-rays and we thought that the metal detector made an excellent and safe replacement."

Murray Howitt, Stanton Bonna's, Marketing Manager explained why the company had wanted to support the Children's Hospital. ***"As a responsible construction materials company we are determined to ensure the safety of our workforce and decided to hold a safety awareness competition with a prize for the department which had zero "lost time" accidents during the year. Paul Fletcher of the winning "Fittings" department decided to donate the prize of £500 to the Children's Hospital. They explained why they wanted to purchase the metal detector and we were delighted to support something which, although a simple idea, will make a dramatic impact on children's lives."***

As well as purchasing the metal detector with Stanton Bonna's gift, the Children's Hospital will also be purchasing over 200 splints which are used to help young children when they are having an injection.

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