## Vibration Prediction & Control Award

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☆ Joint winner: Create Consulting Engineers: St George's Hospital

The development of a new Intensive Treatment Unit posed an extraordinary challenge. The project involved constructing a new wing immediately adjacent to one of the most sensitive clinical environments – including MRI scanners, robotic vascular surgical equipment, and spaces used for brain surgery.

The consultants were brought in early, and raised critical early warnings about the risks posed by construction vibration. With little information available from equipment manufacturers and no set vibration limits to guide the works, the team devised a bespoke programme in partnership with hospital stakeholders – from the contractor and client to the head of imaging and surgeons themselves.

Through controlled on-site trials, established pragmatic, evidence-based vibration thresholds at key sensitive locations. These limits formed the foundation for all subsequent construction activities, ensuring that clinical operations could continue. The hospital remained fully functional, and the construction programme proceeded without delay.

The architect observed, "There was a heavy reliance on the outcome of the testing, which allowed both the build contract to remain on schedule and MRI users and surgeons to continue unhindered."

The judges highlighted the outstanding level of collaboration, noting the effective coordination between acousticians, clinicians, engineers, and contractors. They appreciated the real-world impact of ensuring patient safety and clinical performance under demanding constraints.

## Acoustic Awards 2025

These awards demonstrate the unique skills of UK based acoustic consultants in addressing challenges, championing innovation and originality and showcasing the significance of a profession which blends art and science to transformational effect.



ACOUSTIC AWARDS 2025