



eFIG Awards 2007



Design and Installation
£5,000.00—10,000.00



Bronze Leaf

Winner:
Project:

Urban Planters Oxford
Research in Motion, Slough

Research in Motion UK Ltd is the company behind the famous 'Blackberry' organiser and has experienced rapid growth in the past two years. This led to the company moving its headquarters from old offices in Egham, Surrey to this prestigious location in Slough in the autumn of 2006.

Research in Motion welcomes important visitors from all over the world to this new facility which has a mixture of open plan offices and break-out areas. The brief from the client was to introduce a 'wow' factor into the plant display design which led to selection of the stylish hammered aluminium containers combined with adventurous and varied planting. The building has a number of metal finishes in its design and so it was felt that a metal container would be appropriate and in keeping with this philosophy. The taller but more compact displays were selected for the open plan areas where space is at more of a premium than in the break-out areas where larger and more prominent displays could be used. Light levels vary throughout the building from excellent to relatively poor, so selecting and locating species to match the environment was a critical step in ensuring the ongoing success of the project.

All displays have a bespoke irrigation system consisting of patented polystyrene reservoir with capillary matting wicks and cover and accessed by filling and level-indicator tubes fastened into the polystyrene. We always use branched plant material for greater impact in our installations and where the light levels permit, we like to use unusual plant material. In the Reception area we have selected 'Ficus Ginseng' bonsai and in the open plan areas some of the more unusual plants include 'Crassula Ovata' and 'Ficus Elastica Burgundy'. The planting for this Client was carried out at our Reading premises and held off site for about a week prior to an out of hours installation over the weekend before the offices opened for the first time. Access to the upper floors was possible using the goods lift and no protection of surfaces was necessary as it had already been done by the office fit-out contractor.

