

Case Study

High Speed IT Infrastructure Enhances Local Government



The challenge

The client was in the process of refurbishing offices at Cathays Park, Cardiff to be capable of running the latest technologies such as video and web conferencing as well as providing staff with high-speed internet and intranet access.

The solution

Whitepack Network Services was selected for this project by Fujitsu-Siemens, the contractor, as a direct result of successfully completing a number of other installations at Cathays Park and at other locations throughout Wales. Led by an experienced project manager, a team of specialist engineers was assigned to this important project to ensure that it was completed within the tight deadlines.

Prior to starting, Whitepack Network Services was asked to assist in the design of the IT infrastructure and make recommendations to ensure that it would best meet the needs of the client. It also attended a series of pre-contract meetings to determine the strategy for the whole project including the co-ordination of all the different contractors because of the large number of Government staff that would need to be relocated during the refurbishment, it was determined that the project would be split into three separate phases, all of which were of a similar size and complexity.

All existing Cat5 cabling was stripped out from beneath the raised floors leaving in place the existing optical fibre and multicore cables. The existing cabinets were removed from site and

replaced with two new Prism 47U cabinets with a footprint of 800mm x 800mm. The existing 16-way optical fibre patch panels were discarded and replaced with new Brand-Rex patch panels.

Whitepack Network Services reconfigured the fibre cables using fusion-splicing onto pre-terminated multimode pigtails and ST connectors to reduce signal loss and deliver higher transmission speeds. The existing voice multicore patch panels were migrated to the new cabinets without needing to be disconnected. Whitepack Network Services also installed, labeled and tested Brand-Rex Cat 6 UTP/LSOH cables throughout the floor. This involved over 1,540 cables with a combined length of more than 55,000 metres.

The project was undertaken during normal working hours and was completed within a period of thirty five days. On completion, a complete set of test results, fitted drawings and a twenty-five year Brand-Rex Warranty were provided to the IT department.

