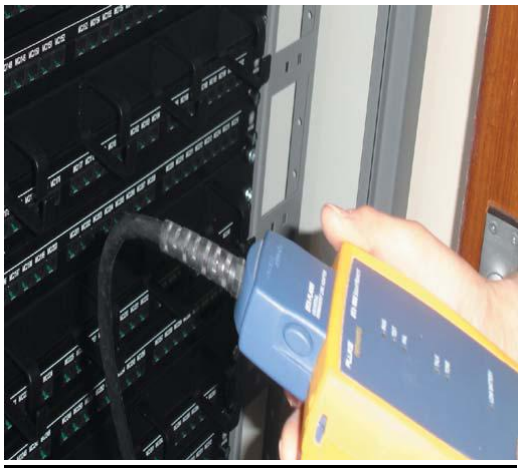
WNS NETWORK SERVICES

Case Study

Upgrading to High Speed Infrastructure



The challenge

The client was in the process of refitting offices in Bexleyheath and needed to temporarily relocate staff while work was being carried out. The decision was taken to move staff into a new workspace, complete with fast network connections at each workstation on level 2 adjacent to Heath House where the Meter and Calibration dept is based. This would require the removal of the old CAT5 UTP cabling without disturbing existing offices.

An updated high speed IT infrastructure would then need to be deployed that was capable of running the latest technologies such as video and web conferencing as well as providing all staff with internet and intranet access. To maintain normal operations, voice and data cabling would also need to be installed to link up with the main communications suite in the adjacent building.

The solution

Whitepack Network Services was selected for this project because it is one of the highest rated companies on the clients Intranet-based pool of contractors where individual job histories and performance levels can be viewed by staff.

An experienced team was assigned to the project to ensure that it was completed within the tight deadlines. It comprised a project manager with more than seventeen years experience supported by a lead site supervisor and three engineers.

The first phase of the project was to strip out the existing redundant cabling in the area on level 2 that was to become the new office space. This took place outside normal working hours to minimise disruption to business operations. All existing lines that were still

operational were migrated into the new 42U CANNON 6000 series smart cabinet provided by Whitepack Network Services to house the new cabling.

Whitepack Network Services installed, tested and labelled 256 Krone LSZH CAT6 UTP outlets to accommodate the workstations that were to be subsequently fitted. All cabling was terminated in the new communications cabinet. The installation of the flood wiring took place during normal working hours over a five-day period.

To provide high-speed voice and data links to the main communications suite in the adjacent building, Whitepack Network Services supplied and installed new 16-core OM3 fibre optic and a 100-pair voice cable. This required the cabling to run under the main site roadway via underground ductwork. Special permission was obtained to close the roadway for 3 hours during a weekday evening. In addition, all works involving live lines needed planned outages to avoid network user drop off.

The running of the voice and data cabling between buildings was a major challenge. The fact that there was no draw rope meant that drain rods had to be pushed through the ducts without getting tangled up with or damaging existing cabling. This was a difficult task, which required multiple attempts from different manholes before a new draw rope was finally installed to pull the cables through.

Key to the success of the project was the high level of communication that was maintained throughout. Daily site progress reports were provided to Whitepack Network Service's project manager, which identified any potential delays. "The high level of co-ordination achieved by Whitepack Network Services with our IT staff as well as with our electrical and building contractors enabled the project to be completed on time and within budget," commented the IT Manager.

A complete set of certification tests were successfully carried out and a 20 year warranty was provided.