

datanet.co.uk
Business Class Internet

Case study

Datanet

About

Location: Aspen House,
Fleet, Hampshire

Project Value: £350,000

Data Centre: 2360m²

Duration: 9 weeks

Datanet is a first-class hosting and connectivity company that was established in 1996. They have been providing their award-winning solutions to an array of businesses throughout the UK, holding three data centre facilities in the London and South East area.

To support Datanet's growing clientele, Sudlows were invited, in association with BT, to upgrade the existing infrastructure of their Head Office in Hampshire to provide a much more powerful data centre with increased functionality.

The brief

Sudlows were asked to design a data centre which would supply a higher power allowance to support their clients' networks. This new development would provide a core infrastructure to facilitate their expansion.

The project required a complete power upgrade (an increase from 4kW to 6kW per server rack) and a new build scheme to upgrade the existing data centre infrastructure consisting of new UPS,

2 air conditioning units and 28 server cabinets all without incurring any power outages, since diverting their UPS over to a new switch point had the potential risk of shutting down their critical systems.



The Sudlows solution

Sudlows devised a design to reflect Datanet's precise needs. They proposed to increase the capacity to 200kVA UPS units, a generator, small power commando sockets and additional resilient power to the air conditioning units.

The limited physical space in the data centre presented a number of engineering challenges associated with the building shell, particularly in regards to positioning the new generator. In response to this challenge, Sudlows worked closely with Datanet to improve the physical layout. By building a heat proof wall between the individual air conditioning units and the newly installed UPS units, the components could be isolated from hot air to protect against dilapidation.

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Andy Hirst, Specialist Projects Director at Sudlows says;

“We always respond to our clients needs with a highly creative proposal. We consider the best solution with respect to their unique situation. In this instance, we found that hot air was escaping from the existing server cabinets and blowing directly onto the already heated UPS system. This would have eventually caused serious harm to the expensive equipment, reducing the UPS lifespan by up to five years.”

By resolving these logistical challenges Andy Hirst explained his team work ethic;

“If a client requires additional work such as moving the lighting system, as with this project, we accommodate our client's needs and I think that's why clients keep come back to us for extended project work.”

The conclusion

The data centre switch over was a well deserved success, which is great news for Datanet's customers who can rest assured that they are adequately provided for any future power requirements.

Conleth McCallan, Managing Director at Datanet, said of the project:

“Sudlows has delivered a fantastic data centre solution that significantly improves our facilities and provides the basis to handle further development. Datanet is an expanding hosting company so it is essential that it possesses the infrastructure to support our future growth. What I particularly liked about Sudlows was their willingness to ensure that whatever the job required, they carried it out both well and to a high standard. Sudlows were outstanding, they have delivered on time and the expertise of its engineers and project planners gave me great confidence in their proposed solution and has contributed to the overall success of the project.”