



*“Tikit Network & Integration Services were highly competent and knowledgeable. They carried out the job in a timely manner and provided us with a very flexible solution. We are very happy with the result and how it has improved the day-to-day efficiency of the business.”*

Stuart Hardy, Manager of IT  
3663 - First for Foodservice

Client: 3663 – First for Foodservice

## **New internal communications system delivers improved data flexibility for food service company**

**3663 - First for Foodservice is the UK’s leading food service company. Owned by The Bidvest Group Limited, 3663 offers over 15,000 products including frozen, fresh, ambient, chilled, confectionery, alcohol, catering equipment & non-food products nationwide to the catering industry.**

### **The challenge**

With 35 different distribution depots across the UK, but no centralised office that could communicate to each of the business units - Logistics, Distribution and Wholesales - 3663 wanted to improve cross communication within the company by centralising to one location. This location would be the new “Centre of Excellence” in Bury.

At the time 3663 were also looking to develop their business by implementing a Supply Chain division. This division would also have to be managed at the Centre of Excellence in Bury.

The new Centre of Excellence office would need to be networked to accommodate for future expansion and for vital communication. The infrastructure needed to be flexible, robust and employees did not want to experience any downtime.

### **The solution**

At the new Centre of Excellence offices in Bury, the answer was to network each employee by a series of Cat 5e voice and data cables located under a floating floor. Tikit consulted with 3663 to ensure they had sufficient network outlets to cover all eventualities.

All employees are now connected through a series of ports located around the office, boardrooms and meeting rooms to provide flexibility and ease of connection to the network. These all terminate in one centralised communications room.

The device at the user end determines whether the point will be utilised for data or voice, making the internal administration of the system far more efficient and easy to manage.

Martin Corbett, National Account Support Controller for 3663 says, “The Cat 5e cabling ensured that it was future proof technology which meant it supported the

## **About Tikit**

Tikit is the leading independent provider of IT consultancy, services and software to legal and accounting firms. Tikit’s clients in the UK, Europe and the United States include more than 90 of the UK’s top 100 law firms, 20 of the top 50 US law firms and 18 of the top 50 UK accountancy firms. Headquartered in London – and listed on the London Stock Exchange (AIM:TIK) – Tikit combines in-depth knowledge of the business needs of legal and accounting firms with a unique capability to plan, implement, integrate and support virtually all of the IT requirements of a modern legal or accounting practice.

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## ***New internal communications system delivers improved data flexibility for food service company – continued***

high speed of data traffic flowing through our systems. It also meant that we didn't have to worry about our technology being out of date next year and that it could support our new offices and business expansion."

### **The results**

3663 now experiences a fully networked and reliable communications system that provides peace of mind to each individual. The system provides:

- Flexible network infrastructure allowing business expansion by up to 50% Improved integrity of data
- Access by anyone, anywhere in the office
- High speed data transmission
- Easy access and maintenance

Stuart Hardy, Manager of IT for 3663 says, "Tikit delivered an internal communication system that exceeded our expectations. With the strategic realignment of the business to our new Bury offices, Tikit implemented a future proof networking solution that has allowed for future business expansion in a cost effective manner. As a result, we now experience improved integrity of data, improved flexibility and a robust system all due to the team at Tikit."

By networking Cat 5e cables under a floating floor, strategically placed connections through portal boxes provide worry free expansion and easy access and maintenance of the cables. "The cables are all configured to one focal point in the office meaning that it is cosmetically pleasing with no wires to trip over and mostly it is for the health and safety of our employees," says Hardy.

Implementing Cat 5e voice and data cables has improved the integrity of data, where access by everyone, anywhere in the office has increased the connectivity, flexibility and flow of communication. "Finally," says Hardy, "Cat 5e voice and data cabling has delivered very high on the performance scales delivering no downtime at all."

***"The first advantage of installing Cat 5e voice and data cabling is that it provides a flexible and robust system in the new office. Secondly, it is a reliable means of advanced technology that we know is future proof and can handle high speeds of data transmission. This kind of networking is also relatively inexpensive therefore saving 3663 money."***

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