

Region: East Midlands

Business Sector: Print Manufacturing

"Existing server and desktops require replacing and linking with server located in Hong Kong"

The Business Problem:

Our client a leading label print manufacturing business based in the East Midlands require a server and desktop workstation refresh. The existing server, and desktops are over 5 years old and the server is struggling for storage space which is having an impact on business productivity.

Our Solution:

As a result of our systems audit we found the following problem areas which were highlighted to senior management:

- Server is currently running WindowsNT which is very dated
- Shortage of physical disk space on the server
- Lack of file and folder level security
- Other than server fault tolerance with RAID there was no offsite backup process
- Setup of a means of communication with international office in Hong Kong for data transfer
- Setup of server/email with mobile devices



As a result of the findings carried out in the audit we identified a number of problem areas. We started by removing the existing HP servers (there was a server for company data and a separate server for email) and installed a new DELL rack mounted server, as a result of our discussions with the Managing Director we recommended opting for a single server solution instead of a split server solution as we felt this would be more effective and would consolidate all systems as opposed to having a split server system architecture.

All work was carried out during a weekend to ensure there was no impact on the business and we installed our own test server to migrate all existing company data. After migration the new server was installed and configured with Active Directory and configured with roaming profiles to ensure all members of staff could log on to any workstation in the office to ensure all workstations were utilised and to cater for staff moving around the office. The company data drives were created and setup with security policies to ensure only members of staff with the correct permissions can access the relevant directories and data (e.g. company accounts data was restricted to accounts department only).

A new network switch, patch panels and router was installed and configured, the new router was installed to cater for remote VPN connections to allow staff to securely connect over the internet to the server as required whilst working out of the office.

All workstations were configured and connected to the new server and anti-virus was configured and pushed out via the server to all workstations and the anti-virus policy was configured on the server to ensure all subsequent updates for virus definitions were automatically pushed silently to all workstations as required.



The server was enabled for mobile device access to cater for mobile phone email access and calendar sharing and mobile phones were connected to the server and tested.

We liaised with the office in Hong Kong via the Managing Director and setup a FTP server to enable the international office to upload files to the server as and when required so staff in the UK could work with graphics and data files to confirm designs for print and manufacturing.

Finally we implemented an offsite internet based backup solution in addition to the RAID array on the server and also configured removable hard drives for offsite daily backups to ensure all business data was backed up in the event of a disaster.

Key Benefits:

- New server technology
- Additional fault tolerance in the event of a disaster
- Automated server backups
- Mobile device email
- File and folder security for company data
- Secure international communication between offices
- Increase of server space and server consolidation

