

CASE STUDY

Financial / Consulting

Ernst & Young European Data Centre, Frankfurt, Germany



SITUATION

Ernst & Young relied on a co-location model for the consolidation of its data centre. The accounting firm brought together three of its European data centres in TeleCityBus near Frankfurt, Germany. Since November 2005, the IT capacities of Ernst & Young's data centres in Eschborn, Stuttgart and Rotterdam have been centralized and operating in approximately 600 square meters in the building of the Frankfurt co-location specialist. Corning was responsible for the planning and installation of the data centre's entire fibre optic and copper cabling system. Time required to implement the Corning Plug and Play™ solution: six weeks.



10 Gigabit Shielded Copper Cabling in the Ernst & Young Data Centre

REQUIREMENTS

"The consolidation of our three data centres in TeleCityBus allows us considerable cost savings. Constructing our own data centre would have required a high initial investment. This would only have paid off after years of use", says Wolfgang Fröhlich, site manager responsible for Ernst & Young's LAN and data centre in Eschborn near Frankfurt. "We are now profiting from the high flexibility and cost advantages of the TeleCityBus co-location model. That means that we literally only pay for the space in the data centre. Operating the infrastructure, that is, hardware, software, data and applications, remains in our hands. We relied on the networking specialists Corning for our data centre's fibre optic and copper network".

Ernst & Young, with head office in Stuttgart, is one of Germany's largest auditing and consulting firms. It is the German member of Ernst & Young Global and has 6,500 employees in 22 locations. In order to achieve cost savings and flexibility in its IT infrastructure, Ernst & Young decided to merge its three data centres located in Eschborn near Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Rotterdam. Its IT capacities have been centralized into an area of approximately 600 square meters at the co-location specialists, TeleCityBus, in Frankfurt. The facility includes storage and backup server racks with a total of 200 servers. The capacity can be expanded up to 500 servers.

From the early planning stages, Corning accompanied planners and installers from the firm Eltec Service GmbH as well as Ernst & Young. All those involved reached agreement quickly, and the planning phase was concluded within eight weeks. Corning supported the auditing firm with technical documentation as well as project presentations concerning the cabling systems used in its product series Plug & Play™.

Corning. Always the right solution.

PLUG & PLAY™ SYSTEM FOR DATA CENTRES

The Plug and Play™ System from Corning Cable Systems is a pre-terminated optical fibre and copper cabling system. It optimizes the assembly of a network infrastructure in structured building cabling. This is of particular importance to meet the requirements of data centres such as Ernst & Young.

For the Ernst & Young project Corning modular 19" housings were installed with OM3 24-fibre MTP® trunks for the fibre cabling, and FutureCom™ 10^{TEN} modules and shielded copper cable for the copper cabling. The modular components of the system are simple to configure, and in comparison to standard systems, which need to be terminated on site, they are quickly installed, connected, and put into operation.

The innovative wiring of the fibre optic modules prevent polarity problems, ensure compatibility, high system performance and a consistent quality among all fibre optic configurations. Another advantage of the pre-terminated system is that there is no need for extensive measuring and sizing. A simple final measurement suffices, leading to even more time saved.

CONCLUSION

"In spite of a tight timetable, we successfully carried out the consolidation and setting up the entire network of our new data centre," says Wolfgang Fröhlich. "Even in the planning stage, Corning's know-how and dedication impressed us. In close cooperation with Eltec, the planning office and installation partner, all stated target dates were met".

Additional European branches of Ernst & Young will gradually outsource their data centres as well, linking them to the IT infrastructure provided by TeleCityBus in Frankfurt. For these projects too, Ernst & Young will keep Corning as its preferred cabling partner.



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