CASE STUDY

FUTURE-PROOF NETWORK FOR HEINEN & HOPMAN ENGINEERING

The Dutch air-conditioning specialist Heinen & Hopman Engineering B.V. installed a flexible, future-ready communications network from Datwyler and RedLink at its new head office in Haarbrug-Noord.

Heinen & Hopman Engineering B.V. – specialist in the design, development, production, and installation of air-conditioning systems for over 40 years – recently moved into an impressive modern office building in Haarbrug-Noord industrial zone. The company chose a Category 6A infrastructure for the communications network in its new headquarters. The high-end cabling and system components of the passive network were supplied by Datwlyer's Dutch partner RedLink B.V., based in Bunschoten-Spakenburg. The modern infrastructure solution was installed by Van den Hoogen Engineering, a specialist for data network solutions also located in Bunschoten-Spakenburg.

"At the new head office Heinen & Hopman wanted a state-of-the-art network infrastructure that offers flexibility for the future. In view of rapidly evolving software and the expected growth of data traffic, the network should also be able to transfer all applications efficiently and at high speed", says project leader Bernd Nijenhuis.

The project team selected RedLink to supply the network infrastructure for data and voice transfer. To meet today's latest standards while anticipating tomorrow's demands, shielded Category 7 cables and Category 6A components from Datwyler were used.

Data, voice, multimedia

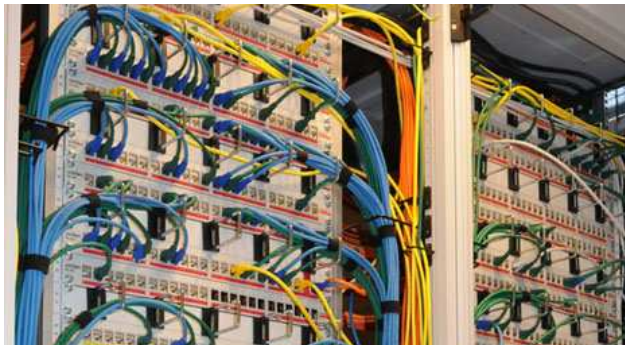
In the offices and production areas Van den Hoogen Engineering installed a 750-link structured network in copper and fibre optic cabling. This high-performance infrastructure is not only flexible but is also designed to support the future growth of the company. With its new network Heinen & Hopman can reliably transfer not only data and voice signals, but also multimedia applications such as television and radio.

ICT availability and performance are vital for an internationally active company like Heinen & Hopman, so 1-gigabit network links and separate lines for IP telephony were installed for the 45 CAD engineers. The other 120 workstations are each equipped with a combined 100-megabit connection. All telephones are powered over the LAN network (PoE, Power over Ethernet), so separate power supplies are unnecessary.

Qualified consulting

The data storage, server, and technical rooms are equipped with a 10-gigabit fibre optic network. Reinier van Schaik, IT Manager at Heinen & Hopman, explains: "The first thing we did was gain an overview of the products available on the market. We saw that Datwyler offers a very good range, which was also highly recommended by our partners. The clincher for us was the great expertise of RedLink B.V." Reinier van Schaik also praised the rapid delivery: "We had all materials on site within a matter of days."

Heinen & Hopman´s server room contains three patch racks, one for each floor. The patch panels are at the top of the cabinets and the switches at the bottom. Patch cords are different colours – green for telephony, orange for switch links, etc. – which makes the patching schedule very clear. Next to the patch racks are three interlinked server racks with the hardware for all ICT applications. These have a 40-KVA UPS (uninterrupted power supply) and are cooled by two air-conditioning units that supply cool air through the raised-floor cavity.



Ready for the future

"With this installation we are perfectly prepared for the future", boasts van Schaik. That includes any conceivable expansion of the ICT system: "We can add servers, and our patch panels have plenty of capacity for more connections."

Datwyler provided Heinen & Hopman a 20-year system guarantee through its partner RedLink. This covers the entire communications network – both the installed materials and the installation technology.

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