

TOTAL SOLUTION DATA CENTRE DESIGN & BUILD

# A DATA CENTRE DESIGNED AND BUILT DURING LOCKDOWN FOR OPUS TRUST COMMUNICATIONS

CASE STUDY

A closely managed key worker data centre project in Leicestershire. Delivered on time and in budget with newly developed COVID-19 processes, overcoming supply chain and on-site social distancing challenges.



Secure I.T. Environments Ltd. 9 Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 0AT  
T 01983 885 182 F 01983 885 183 E enquiries@siteltd.co.uk

[www.siteltd.co.uk](http://www.siteltd.co.uk)



In an unprecedented time, Secure I.T. Environments delivered a key worker modular data centre project in just 15 weeks, working closely with the client to develop working practices that overcame the challenges of working during COVID-19 in a fully operational environment.

“We would like to thank Secure I.T. Environments for delivering during a challenging time, as well as in a short turnaround. We are very pleased with the results,”

Hayden Savage,  
Chief Operating Officer at  
Opus Trust Communications.



At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, OPUS Trust Communications, the omnichannel communication specialist working in heavily regulated industries, including Telecoms, The NHS, Utilities and Financial Services providers, had a challenge to deal with that neither it or Secure I.T. Environments could have foreseen at the start of the data centre design and build project they had started on together.

Having been designed in the build-up to the global COVID-19 pandemic taking hold, the partners had to find a way to get the mission critical project completed, which with key worker status, was able to proceed. At its heart the new data centre was a key component in OPUS Trust Communications plans to further increase the security rating of its operations.

Construction began during lockdown in April 2020, and despite the many challenges created in the supply chain, logistics, and onsite management of the project, it was fully delivered in just 15 weeks.

The project was made all the more challenging as it was being built in a fully operational area. This meant Secure I.T. Environments and OPUS has to work closely together and with great care to develop new processes and timelines, that would ensure the project complied with COVID-19 requirements, minimised risks for all involved, and still enabled the project to be delivered on time.

Chief Operating Officer at Opus Trust Communications, Hayden Savage said: "As a company that delivers intelligent omnichannel communication solutions

for a range of clients, data security and regulatory compliance is fundamental. As we manage the business-critical communications for an increasing number of customers, the investment in our new Data Security Centre is further commitment to the robustness of the processes and procedures we have in place."

A number of approaches were taken to ensure everybody's safety, during such a critical project including:

- Split working procedures to ensure only two engineers in the room at any time
- Close liaison with manufacturing partners to ensure key deliveries
- Agile timeline management to deal with fluid and rapidly changing variables that affected plans
- Remote project and on-site management meetings over video conferencing

The specification for the new data centre, which Secure I.T. Environments designed and built, was a modular fire rated panel design. It included 19" cabinets, a new UPS located in a separate UPS secure compound, LED and emergency lighting, and in-row air conditioning units in N+1 configuration. SITE also installed an additional main incoming power supply to the data centre for redundancy. Enlogic Cabinet power distribution units were supplied for monitoring at the rack. Secure I.T. Environments was also responsible for all switchgear, structured cabling, raised access flooring, an external AHU condenser compound and environmental management systems, access control, intruder alarms and CCTV.

Chris Wellfair,  
Projects Director at Secure  
I.T. Environments. added:

*"This was one of our most challenging projects ever, starting just at the moment when life in the UK, was thrown into disarray for everyone and every business. Our dedicated project and installation team always work very closely with our clients and this has been more important than ever as we all worked to navigate and design new ways of working. The success of this project has proven the value of all the time invested to get processes right, and some of these are being taken forward into all our new projects."*

