

Case Study: Capital Continuity manage a risk free data centre migration for Kingspan



Kingspan Group are a leading manufacturer of sustainable products to the building industry. As part of a consolidation project they needed to migrate 18 servers from one of their existing UK based data centres to head office facility in Dublin, Ireland. Operating throughout the UK and Europe and turning over €1.6b, Kingspan required a replication solution that offered consistency across servers and volumes. Richard Gray, Head of IT for Kingspan Environmental and Renewables a division of Kingspan Group, was conscious of the need to keep business disruption and downtime to a minimum. Choosing Capital Continuity to manage the project had a number of benefits for Richard.

The Need

The first stage of the project involved replicating the existing servers to test them and prove they could work in the new environment. Storage Area Network equipment was then shipped to Ireland. Once the servers were re-installed by a member of Kingspan's technical team in the Irish data centre, they were tested to ensure they were operating to a satisfactory level. The replicated server data was then migrated and the servers were fully operational again. By replicating the systems Capital Continuity could ensure they had a back up, in case the migration was not successful. This way Kingspan could continue to operate via the replicated server data, while any adjustments to the new server environment were made.

The migration was carried out over a weekend. This quick recovery of the systems enabled Kingspan to open their offices as normal on Monday morning, achieving zero downtime as a result. This meant Kingspan did not lose any productivity or working business days, as Richard had anticipated. Richard commented, "Capital Continuity delivered a simple risk free solution, ensuring we did not suffer downtime. For a company of our size it doesn't take long for downtime to become costly."

The Solution

Following the successful migration Kingspan can look forward to substantial cost savings, as they can now operate from a single data centre based within their Irish head office. The savings result from lower power consumption and less cooling facilities, needed to maintain a single large data centre, rather than two smaller data centres. Richard commented, "The cost saving achieved more than offsets the investment required to migrate the servers, we are very happy with the excellent level of service and expertise the Capital Continuity team demonstrated."

“Great Service, Professional Team.”

Richard Gray - Head of IT

The Results

Fully operational systems are often taken for granted, but recognising the importance of keeping risk to minimum and ensuring business continuity is important to any business. It's not until a customer experiences a breakdown or needs to carry out some IT infrastructure adjustments, like Kingspan these services come to fruition. Adjusting infrastructure as a business changes and grows can be a high risk activity as data loss and downtime can be commonplace. Some organisations choose to lose a day's business, taking down servers completely, but this can be costly in terms of lost business. Capital Continuity always look for the simplest solutions to ensure risk is kept to a minimum at all times. Capital Continuity are leaders in delivering reliable continuity solutions, driving down risk and allowing customers to focus on their core business. In today's competitive environment the ability to implement business continuity plans is becoming even more prevalent. Let Capital Continuity be the support pillar your business can rely on.