

N.V. White and Wadsworth provide Warranted Category 5 system for Pall Mall's oldest building

Electrical and data networking specialist N.V. White selected networking distributor Wadsworth to supply the products needed to install a warranted Category 5 installation in a Grade 1 listed building in under three weeks.

Situated in London's West End, Schomberg House is a prestigious Grade 1 listed building with the distinction of being Pall Mall's oldest structure. The building is owned by CGU, the insurance giant formed last year from the merger of Commercial Union and General Accident, and is home to the company's property-related operations. A key aspect of these operations is the computer network housed on the third floor.

As part of ongoing refurbishment work, CGU recently decided that a completely new structured cabling system was needed to cope with future growth demands. To help them plan and implement the installation of this new system, the company called in N.V. White Limited, a specialist installer of data telecommunications and electrical cabling systems.

Installation requirements

The objective of the installation was to replace an existing system with a fully certified Category 5 implementation. The implementation had to provide voice and data outlets on the third floor of the building with some additional outlets in the meeting rooms in the basement. CGU also specified that the network must offer guaranteed performance during its lifetime and that moving operations from the old to the new system must take place without interruption to daily operations. In addition, because Schomberg House is a Grade 1 listed building, the installers would be under severe restrictions to the type of



work that could be carried out on it. This situation was further complicated by a lack of false ceilings and existing ducting and the presence of situation exacerbated by old beams. Finally, the new installation had to be up and running in just three weeks!

Wadsworth Wise 5 Plus Structured Wiring System

The structured wiring scheme proposed by N.V. White was based around high-performance Alcatel Category 5 cabling and KRONE Category 5 components such as wall plates and patch panels. For the supply of these products, the installer turned to computer networking distributor Wadsworth Electronics.

Discussing choice of supplier, David White, N.V. White's Managing Director, comments: "Not only did Wadsworth offer next day delivery on all of the products that we needed but they also ensured that we could provide CGU with a fifteen year performance guarantee on the network."

The key to the performance guarantee lies in the fact that the Alcatel cable and the KRONE products are part of Wadsworth's Wise 5 Plus Category 5 wiring scheme. This covers any defects in materials or installation workmanship and guarantees Category 5 performance for a period of 15 years from original certification date.

By utilising existing features such as riser ducts and ceiling voids, N.V. White was able to carry out the Schomberg House installation in full accordance with Grade 1 listing requirements. The project was completed within the three week deadline with the final changeover from the old system taking place over a weekend to ensure that all systems were up and running without user disruption the following Monday.

N.V. White Ltd

234 Green Lane
 Eltham, London SE9 3TL
 Tel: 020 8851 3411
 Fax: 020 8857 4231
www.nvwhite.com