



An International Banking Organisation

Case Study

Relocation to new central London Banking and Trading facilities proves a success for an International Banking Organisation...

The Client:

The Client is one of the biggest names in Financial Services. With operations across the UK and overseas, millions of clients throughout the world rely on the Group every day. The Client offers a unique approach to relationship banking which customers to use a service tailored to their distinctive needs. Each service provides access to a wide range of specialists in a number of areas, including capital markets, treasury services, debt and equity finance, international business services, leasing and financial institutions.

The Challenge:

As part of its strategic capacity expansion and building rationalisation plans, the Client was to create a new office facility incorporating a modern trading floor through the lease of 4 floors in a central location in the City of London. In excess of 1,000 users were to be relocated into the new building, making the scale of the project considerable. In such a fast-paced environment, the IT infrastructure within the new office would need to be resilient and high performing, such that it could support the communication demands of both the business users and traders.

To ensure that such a communications platform could be successfully designed and implemented, PTS Consulting was engaged as the Client's IT Consultancy partner for the Relocation. PTS Consulting would also project manage the IT fit-out and the technology installations as part of the overall building programme, including facilitation of the tendering and procurement process for the IT systems and services.

The Solutions:

Design and Procurement: PTS was engaged on the project in the early design phase, prior to the construction fit-out, and worked closely with the professional design team to ensure that the IT requirements of the Client were identified and translated into the design specification of all elements of the IT infrastructure. This included elements such as: the SCS (Structured Cabling System); the CER (Central Equipment Room) design, power, cooling and cable containment; and, the voice and data technologies. Blade computing was identified as being the best technology for the Client. Blade computing platforms provide numerous advantages because of their modular design, simplified management and greater integration of storage and data networking components. The use of integrated switching within the blade chassis significantly reduce the cabling costs and lowers the complexities of management. In the Enterprise environment, PTS was pivotal in the design of and specifying the optimal location within the CER for the blade server and blade desktop chassis to ensure power and cooling limitations were not exceeded. PTS Consulting also played a central role in the design of the Data and VoIP network and its interface to the IPC dealer voice system. PTS Consulting



also managed the procurement process on the Client's behalf to approach the market to source the right products from the best suppliers, help achieve maximum advantage, value for money and negotiation of effective contracts.

Implementation and Project Management: Following the IT design and procurement, PTS Consulting assisted in the project management of the individual technology workstreams, to ensure that they were managed as part of the overall Relocation programme. Working closely with both the design and construction teams, alongside the nominated 'overall' Construction Management company, MACE, PTS ensured that the risks, issues and pitfalls common to most IT Relocation projects were identified early and mitigated accordingly. Overseeing the telecommunications vendor installations on both the voice and data circuitry was a particularly important part of the implementation, with PTS Consulting ensuring that the voice and data services were delivered diversely through separate entry points, separate termination points and where possible via diverse exchange delivery.

The Benefits:

PTS' knowledge and experience of working with construction and design teams, combined with its extensive IT Relocation experience and technical expertise across the different technology workstreams was of considerable benefit to the Client's senior management and IT department as it allowed them to focus on the success of the project at a high level.

Specific features of the project delivered to the Client included:

- IT Relocation for over 1,000 users to new business banking and trading premises in London.
- Translation of the Client's communication requirements into a design and specification for a new high performance and resilient IT infrastructure.
- Procurement of IT to purchase the best products, negotiating suitable contracts that are fully aligned with the Client's business requirements.
- Implementation and project management of the new voice and data infrastructure including Structured Cabling Systems, CER, blade computing, VoIP and Dealer Voice Systems.
- Communication and co-ordination with all third parties and professional team members to ensure risks were negated and IT was accounted for within the overall construction programme.

The Verdict:

The project was a tremendous success and testament to PTS' ability to pro-actively contribute to not only the IT elements of a project but also to the entire project and construction team process.

About PTS Consulting: PTS Consulting Group PLC (PTS) is one of the world's leading IT consultancies with a reputation for innovation and thought leadership. PTS is also renowned for its project management expertise. As the global leader in IT relocation projects, working with some of the world's largest companies, PTS has earned a world-wide reputation for independence, professionalism and quality of service. Headquartered in the UK and founded in 1983, PTS has worked in over 70 different countries, 250 cities and employs 330 staff in the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific. www.ptsconsulting.com