



Case study.

AIM Composites

AIM Composites Ltd is one of the leading composite companies in Europe, working with the latest in materials and technologies for a wide range of customers in Aerospace and related industries. The company was founded in 1984 and is part of the AIM Aviation Group. They are based just north of Cambridge and employ between 150 and 200 people.

Graham Scott, IT and Production Engineering Manager: "When I took on the IT system three years ago, our computer network was a mess. Our PCs were running mismatched operating systems and some software was without appropriate licences. We were using three different email systems, which meant people couldn't access their mail from home or even a different desk. We were experiencing server problems on average once a fortnight, often taking as long as a couple of days to resolve. We had previously used a London-based IT company for support, but they were charging us a fortune, and sometimes they would take a week to send out an engineer. We're in a fast moving industry, and we have to be able to respond quickly. It was frustrating to be at the mercy of a dysfunctional computer system.

We invited a couple of local IT companies to tender, and Boldfield stood out. Over a couple of months they looked at everything we had and together we worked out a strategy of what equipment and software was needed to get us to where I wanted to go. The actual server switchover only meant a couple of hours of downtime – nothing compared to what we were used to! We now have state-of-the-art Virtualized Servers on new hardware, the latest version of SAGE running on Server2008, and the email system is rationalised using Outlook Exchange. The change has been dramatic. We can now trust our network to run smoothly. Everything is backed up and monitored properly (it wasn't before). Most of us in the offices are also working on dual screens now, which make us more productive. We can pick up our email anywhere in the office or anywhere that has an internet connection when we are out of the office. Our laptops have VPN installed so we can access the main server when we're away, too.

We've been working with Boldfield since 2009, and they have never let us down. They're local, and their engineers are just ten minutes away in an emergency. We're making considerable savings year on year, compared to our old IT supplier. My thanks go to the Boldfield team for their support and enthusiasm through these significant changes. With some changes still to be implemented, I look forward to more of the same in the future."

Graham Scott

IT and Production Engineering Manager

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