

Case Study:
Cabinet Rationalisation 2016

Customer:
Kingston University

Overview

Occupying four campuses in and around the Surrey town of Kingston upon Thames, Kingston University provides undergraduate and postgraduate courses to some 20,000 students. The university has around 3,000 student facing PCs and an online library of more than 400,000 ebooks and ejournals.



With the most visible cabinets now transformed, Kingston University presents a tidier, more professional image to existing and prospective students.

Our challenge

In mid-2015, Kingston University called on its trusted IT services provider, Quadratek to rationalise 80 IT server racks and cabinets across its four campuses. Serving all areas across the estate, these cabinets provide network access to student accommodation, libraries, faculty and management departments, retail areas and, crucially, the university's security function. Over previous years, the cabinets had become disorderly and difficult to manage. With many of them in full public view, they also projected the wrong image to the university's students and visitors.

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+44(0)8450 740 530

Quadratek



Before



After

"Quadratek are technical experts who collaborate effectively with our own IT team to provide a seamless service and solve problems with minimum disruption."

What we did

Our team of four cabling engineers – who all have strong backgrounds in data centres – worked closely with Kingston University's IT department to plan the cabinet rationalisation programme. To minimise disruption to students and staff across the campuses, we operated out of hours wherever possible. We put special arrangements in place to ensure continuity of service to the security operations. This enabled us to complete 80 per cent of the project by Easter 2016. Elements of the project involving infrastructure that students and staff at the university rely most heavily upon are scheduled for the 2016 summer holidays.

The results

With the most visible cabinets now transformed, Kingston University presents a tidier, more professional image to existing and prospective students. As an establishment that attracts some 3,500 students from overseas, this is essential to its foreign student recruitment programme. Staff at the university are also able to carry out routine operations and maintenance with greater efficiency.

What the client said

"It's always a pleasure to work with the Quadratek team. They understand the complex functions here at the university and the needs of our staff and students. They're also technical experts who collaborate effectively with our own IT team to provide a seamless service and solve problems with minimum disruption."

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