

HAMILTON ASSOCIATES

When Hamilton Associates, a large architectural firm, recently relocated to a new two storey site in central London the new venue presented the company with the opportunity to acquire a state-of-the-art network cabling infrastructure. The challenge was to identify the perfect network to meet their current telecommunications needs and have a network solution to see them well into the future. They understood that in today's work environment, everything depends on an integrated, reliable network infrastructure.



*Phil Thompson
of Annor Ltd (left)
presenting James Tansley
with the IBDN certification plaque*

Hamilton Associates

*Discover NORDX/CDT's High Performance **GigaBIX Cross-Connect System***

As Hamilton's IT Manager, Mr. James Tansley had the challenge of reviewing all available network options and equipping this new workplace with the best overall technology. In short, a high performing solution which is open, flexible, secure and reliable, not to mention highly scaleable.

After a rigorous process of evaluating all available cabling solutions and identifying top certified network system vendors, he selected Annor Ltd. as his vendor of choice. Together they confidently turned to the NORDX/CDT's **IBDN GigaBIX Cross-Connect System**.

Mr. Tansley had previous experience with NORDX/CDT products, namely the **IBDN 1224 Certified Modular Patch Panel System** (using **RJ45** connections), and he was secure in the knowledge that the **GigaBIX Cross-Connect System** would deliver a powerful, secure, leading edge system that would allow for virtually unlimited future application growth.

Conceptualizing, designing and creating a building structure for clients is a highly complex process. For architects such as Hamilton Associates, it involves intricate collaboration between the lead architectural firm, external engineering teams, contractors and other contributors to each project.

These contributing teams are often dispersed geographically making tight project coordination and telecommunications not only a significant challenge, but the key factor in ensuring success with each and every project.

Therefore it was mission critical that Hamilton's new facility have the network and telecommunication's capability of meeting this essential criteria. Keeping all parts of the team and stakeholders abreast of all current changes and updated with the latest versions of plans and drawings are vital.

IBDN *Success Stories*

NORDX/CDT provided the perfect high performance end-to-end structured cabling solution for this London based architectural firm.

Armed with a deep understanding of the fact that appropriate network technology will optimize the quality and timeliness of communications among each member of the project's team, Hamilton Associates set out to adopt a state-of-the-art network capable of meeting all of its exacting requirements. Hamilton Associates wanted to bridge the gap between technology implementation and business objectives. That is, creating greater value for their customers by enabling more work to be produced faster, at a lower cost and at the highest levels of quality.

Annor Limited, formed in 1997 and a certified NORDX/CDT vendor, was given the mandate to propose a design and deliver a quotation using NORDX/CDT products. Given the exceedingly high cost of office space in London, Hamilton Associates correctly placed a high priority on the space saving characteristics of the **GigaBIX Cross-Connect System**.



The Installation

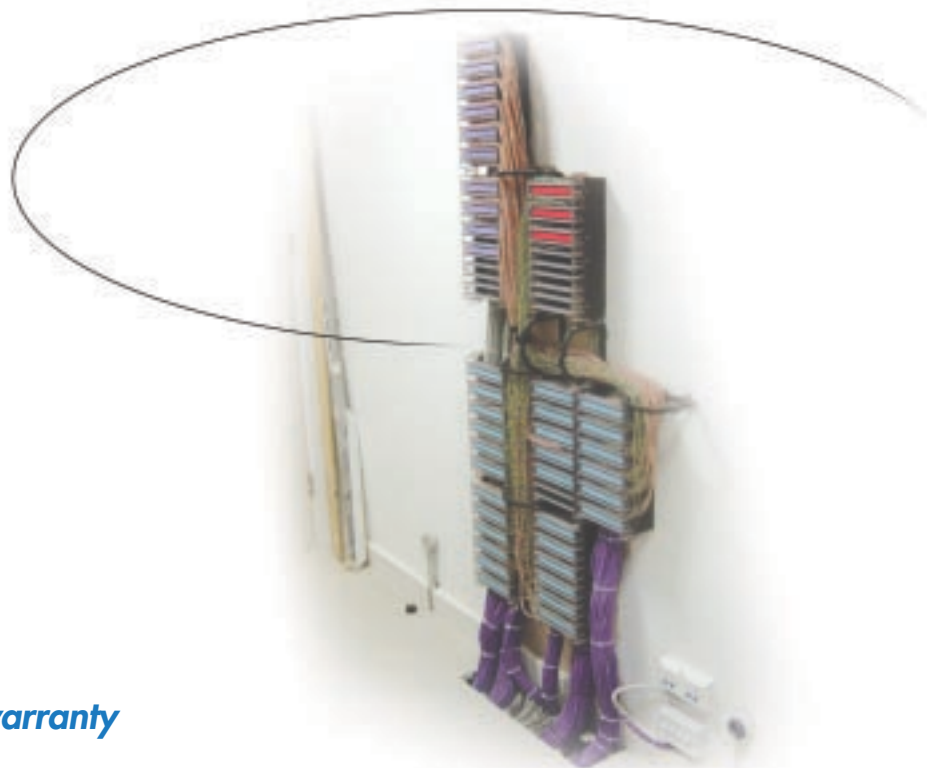
This installation of the two story Hamilton Associates building, begun in August 2001 and consisted of an equipment room (ER) located on the ground floor. This room measuring 4.2m long x 1.9m wide houses a wall mounted GigaBIX System with cross-connect wire while the **IBDN Gigabit system 4800LX** was chosen for the distribution of the horizontal cabling.

The distribution field is supporting a number of **330 IBDN 4824LX LSZH 4pr UTP cables**. These cables are distributed as horizontal cables between the ground and first floors and terminated at the work area on RJ45 GigaFlex PS6+ modules within floor boxes.

A number of **120 IBDN PS6LX RJ45** modular cords (single-ended RJ45 cords) were installed as the equipment field from the GigaBIX wall mounted system to the adjacent 19" open rack. This provides the LAN links from the active equipment to the cross-connect field on the GigaBIX frame.

When real estate space is at a premium, cable management modules can be stacked to ensure telecommunications rooms have the smallest possible footprint. However, this did not entail compromising on performance. Only the highest performing end-to-end solution would be deemed acceptable.

IBDN *Success Stories*



Future growth with a 25 years warranty

The GigaBIX Cross-Connect System delivers space savings, which is up to 75% of the area requirements of a "traditional" RJ45 installation while exceeding the Category 6 standard. The design of the equipment room proved to be the most challenging aspect of this installation. The area allocated to the IT Manager and Annor Ltd. was a mere 8 square meters. The GigaBIX Cross-Connect System was the only available solution that could support 330 outlets and LAN links in this modest space.

Another key benefit was the availability for future growth and expansion; the ability to have a network, which could grow on demand. This additional bandwidth capacity would be a safeguard for future growth in graphic workstation workload and video conferencing applications — a necessity in the architectural industry. With the IBDN System 4800LX Hamilton Associates can be assured that their new system can provide them with 300 MHz of channel bandwidth and enough headroom for future application growth.

The IBDN components installed in the IBDN structured cabling system have been "certified" to be warranted for a period of 25 years from the date of installation. This is one of the industry's strongest warranty programs. A Lifetime Application Assurance warranty was also provided.

The Structured cabling system installed at Hamilton Associates is a NORDX/CDT Certified System. This certification provides a 25 years warranty for all installed connection and distribution hardware that including the labor cost and a lifetime application assurance for the capability of supporting all industry standard applications.

*The availability
for future growth and expansion and a
network which could grow on demand
represent a key benefit.*

IBDN *Success Stories*



*"In brief,
we are very happy with the solution
provided to us by Annor Ltd...."*

*Logical, simple,
and easy to manage*

After completion of the network project, a highly satisfied IT Manager, Mr. Tansley stated: "Annor Ltd. provided the master planning for the telecommunications room and achieved a very logical set up and configuration for all the needed services. The installation was on time, on budget, and the staff at Annor Ltd were very helpful at all stages of the project. Following a brief training session by Annor Ltd., I am now fully in charge of the installation. Cable management is greatly simplified without having to use the old style patch cables and is a lot neater."

"The new network has been on-line for 3 weeks and is working extremely well. Thanks to the unique design of this system we were able to avoid the use of any cabinets in the equipment room (ER). This has not only made a significant amount of valuable space available for office use but has also made the switch gear much more accessible and easier to manage. In brief we are very happy with the solution provided to us by Annor Ltd. and highly rate the GigaBIX Cross-Connect System as a superior way to manage telecommunications room cabling", concludes Mr. Tansley.

The Conclusion: A **Cost Effective Solution**

The GigaBIX Cross-Connect System has provided Hamilton Associates with a network structure that is efficient, effective and adaptable to all of their business needs. They can now leverage this technology as their needs evolve and maintain an unparalleled level of communications with all of the contributors in each of their projects.

The considerable space savings realized by the use of the GigaBIX Cross-Connect System provided real cost benefits as they translated into significant gains in valuable usable office space. It has not only proven to be the most space and cost effective solution in the industry, it has also provided Hamilton Associates with the certainty that they can rely on their installed cabling infrastructure to support today's high performance needs and grow on demand to meet future application needs.

Organization
Hamilton Associates

Location
London, UK

Vertical Market
Architecture

Number of Sites/Buildings
1

Cabling System
GigaBIX Cross-Connect System

For more information about
NORDX/CDT Structured Cabling Systems
visit us on the web at www.nordx.com or
contact the NORDX/CDT office in your area.