

RIELLO UPS: OFFICE RELOCATION IS PLAIN SAILING



Admiral Insurance is a household name specialising in providing low cost car insurance through a number of brands, including Elephant, Diamond and cost comparison website Confused.com. The insurer is part of financial services intermediary, Admiral Group Plc, which insures over 3.9 million vehicles, operates 14 brands and employs more than 7000 people across seven countries. The group is one of the UK's top three car insurers and has been independently recognised as one of the nation's best companies to work for. The company manages its operations from Wales where it has offices in Swansea, Cardiff and Newport.

In 2013, Admiral moved into purpose-built headquarters in Cardiff city centre. 220 000 sq. ft. in size and split over 11 floors, the new Ty Admiral building, which means Admiral House in Welsh, complies with the environment BREEAM 'Excellent' standard for, sustainability and energy efficiency. In a phased move, 2400 personnel were re-located to the new headquarters which was designed to

provide the very best working environment including an accessible roof terrace and a 'Get Ready' room for staff to use on nights out. Ty Admiral also houses a dedicated data centre facility that supports the company's internal applications, customer-facing systems, telephony and other ICT infrastructure. Huw Llewellyn, Head of Property at Admiral Group, explains: *"As a business, technology underpins everything we do. It's critical that our services and systems are available whenever our staff and our customers need them. For example, our internet quoting facility is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. "Having our own data centre on-site ensures that we have enough system capacity to support our critical business data and resources, including managing quote volumes as the business continues to grow."*

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The design and build of the data centre at Ty Admiral was outsourced to two consultancy firms. It was through one of these consultants that preferred supplier, Constant Power Services, was subcontracted to design and install a power protection system for the new facility. “When specifying the requirements for the power protection system, we were looking for a solution that would offer us resilience, reliability and scalability in equal measure,” says Huw Llewlyn. “CPS listened carefully to what we wanted and proposed a technical solution that was tailored to our very precise needs. Before procuring the equipment it was tested rigorously against other options, such as transformerless units, and although some of these alternatives were cheaper to purchase, they weren’t robust enough to support our mission-critical infrastructure.”

Constant Power Services positioned, commissioned and tested two sets of two Master Plus 120 kVA MHT - HE UPS in parallel. Each UPS has two strings of 40 batteries, a battery rack and a Ronis key to interface with the site switchboard.

“The Master MPS devices have a small footprint and are highly efficient – operating at 95.5% efficiency means that they waste less power. By running them in parallel, we are confident that they will provide us with enough power to cope with both our current and future business requirements,” comments Huw.

FUTURE PROOFING

Chris Cowley, Commercial Manager, Constant Power Services explains, “Having worked with Admiral over the last twenty-five years, we know that they’re a fastgrowing business and as such, we fully understood their need for a power continuity system that would be highly energy efficient and at the same time, future proof their business. “The 95.5% efficiency of the HE transformer based UPS units will enable Admiral to save on operating costs in the future while also providing a more robust and fault tolerant solution.” Installed in an N+N configuration, additional UPS units can be added as and when the need arises. These extra units can be installed and hot connected without

necessitating a shutdown, meaning that there is no disruption to Admiral’s 24 hour business operations. Should any issues arise with the UPS, a preventative maintenance and emergency call-out contract is in place which means that a CPS representative will be on-site within four hours.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

CPS carried out the installation over a period of 8-10 weeks, during which time the project team were faced with several challenges that were unique to working on a property development in a busy city centre location. Parking restrictions around the building meant that delivery of equipment had to be coordinated with precision and undertaken swiftly. Once on-site, kit had to be forklifted to its final destination as the lifts were not operational at the time. Head of Property, Huw Llewellyn, says, “Over the last 25 years, CPS has consistently supplied us with an outstanding level of service. The Ty Admiral development is a real milestone in Admiral’s history and with such a significant project, having a supplier like CPS on board who knows us well and we can trust implicitly to do a great job is priceless. “Whether they’re specifying a new system, training our staff or providing maintenance, we know from experience that CPS will go the extra mile and this is why we continue to work with them year after year.”

Solution

- MASTER PLUS 120 kVA
- Master HP (MHT)
- Master HE (MHE)

Why Riello UPS?

- Installation
- Commissioning
- Testing
- Training
- Maintenance

Project developed by

constant
power services