

zenzero

IT SOLUTIONS

Zenzero supports Spatial Design through rapid growth

Case Study

The Problem

Spatial Design are a contemporary architects based in Brentwood, Essex. Specialising in sustainable and hybrid architecture in a variety of urban and countryside settings, suffering from a combination of rapid business growth and outdated IT equipment it was essential to make changes. Brendon Robins, Director at Spatial Design wanted more stability from their IT systems; "We had been using a 'one man band' for our IT and once the business started to grow quickly it was crucial that we looked for a partner who could create a stable platform for us, not only now, but also for the future."

"Before we started working with Zenzero we identified a few major issues that needed rectifying straight away. Firstly we were using an old Dell desktop PC as a fileserver, which we were also using to store our company database, which was incredibly temperamental. We were also struggling with our email, it was very slow due to the number of people connecting via a slow ADSL connection, which was also unreliable and would continually drop out. To ensure we kept the professional level of Spatial Design it was essential that we started to address these IT issues that had been holding us back."



Key Benefits

- On-premise Microsoft Exchange email environment
- 10 times faster internet speed
- Fully automated offsite disaster recovery system
- Increased security

The Solution

After spending time with Spatial Design, Zenzero set out a plan that would resolve the problems that they were experiencing, whilst also setting them on the right track for the future.

A new Dell PowerEdge Server running Microsoft Small Business Server 2011 was suggested as this would allow for file storage with permissions and security groups. Added to this was Microsoft Exchange for email which would give a much more reliable service. To solve the issue of poor internet connection Zenzero also suggested upgrading the BT connection to a fibre DSL line with two static IP addresses. With the additions of a SonicWALL Firewall incorporating multiple Wi-Fi networks for employees and visitors, and a Netgear switch, they ensured the office was fully connected.



With a lot at stake it was important to choose the right partner. "After meeting with Zenzero we had a huge amount of confidence in the solution that they were proposing, we also saw the appeal of a rolling one month support contract which would guarantee us the very highest levels of support service."

The Results

"The overall results have been fantastic, along with addressing our major immediate issues, Zenzero also carried out a number of smart solutions, like fully automated offsite disaster recovery backups which gives both us, and our clients piece of mind. What started as a need to upgrade our IT systems has resulted in some massive additional benefits to the business. With the introduction of on premise email via Microsoft Exchange we have gained all the additional collaborative functionalities that this solution gives you, all of this means that the business benefits from a boost in productivity."

"Zenzero were very professional to work with, all the way from the initial contact to completion of the project, and we also benefit from the ongoing support that they provide."



Technology

- Dell PowerEdge Server
- SonicWALL Firewall
- Microsoft Small Business Server 2011
- Microsoft Exchange
- Netgear Switch
- Online back-up implemented using Storage Craft
- Upgraded fibre DSL internet

"Zenzero also managed to keep the disruption and downtime to our business at an absolute minimum, which was incredibly impressive considering the amount of work that they were carrying out."

"Overall we are extremely happy with the work that Zenzero have carried out. At the outset we were looking for a more stable platform to run our core software whilst also improving our email solution, they did that and more."

"What started as upgrading our IT systems gave us real business benefits and increased our levels of productivity"

Brendon Robins, Spatial Design Architects

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