

Case study

Skanska UK Plc

Aligning IT and investment strategy to enhance competitive advantage



Organization

Skanska UK Plc

Country

UK

Industry

Construction Services

Deal Size

\$3M

HP

PC and desktop devices

HP Financial Services

- Flexible IT Investment Solution
- Technology Refresh



SKANSKA

“IT is becoming much more important to Skanska. HP Financial Services (HPFS) has helped us implement our IT and investment strategy and in doing so has enhanced our competitive advantage. We are now better able to respond to the challenges of working collaboratively with our partners, as well as deliver IT on schedule and budget, cutting waste along the way. We know we can rely on HPFS to support us day-to-day, and for the future we are looking to further automate our internal ordering processes and to widen our investment approach to other technologies.”

– Andy Bates, IT Services Manager, Skanska UK Plc

Organization profile

Founded in 1887, Skanska is one of the world’s leading project development and construction groups. Skanska is listed on the Stockholm stock exchange and headquartered in Sweden’s capital city, operating around the world—in selected markets in Europe and US. With a focus on green construction, ethics and occupational health and safety, Skanska offers competitive solutions for the most complex assignments. Skanska’s mission is to develop, build and maintain the physical environment for living, traveling and working.

By combining its skills and experience in construction and infrastructure development, Skanska has become a UK leader in delivering projects in healthcare, education, defense, transportation and municipal services, delivered through both private and public investment. Specialist in-house teams provide world-class foundations and piling expertise, as well as mechanical and electrical services for buildings and infrastructure.

In the UK, Skanska is one of the country’s top contractors, with extensive service-based contracts which include upgrading London’s gas infrastructure, long-term street lighting projects, and landscaping for the London 2012 Olympic Park in Stratford. Skanska is famous for building iconic structures like 30 St Mary Axe (the Gherkin), Heron Tower, Barts and The Royal London hospitals and the QEII Bridge.

Business situation

IT is becoming increasingly important in the construction industry. Skanska's business is primarily project led and they collaborate with many different partners in joint ventures using a range of tools which demand processing power and the ability to manage big data across organizations. Building information modeling (BIM) is a key example, supporting collaborative working and providing accessible accurate data. The UK government requires BIM on many public projects.

In the past, a budget was allocated for each individual project to buy and use its own hardware, with project managers maintaining inventory stocks to help maintain flexibility and scalability to meet demands quickly. This led to oversupply, under-utilization, and difficulties keeping hardware and software up-to-date. It also meant challenges for Skanska UK's IT investment approach.

Today, Skanska UK manages IT as a shared service, delivering required IT services to Skanska project teams. The IT team realized that they needed to bring the IT estate under central control to manage a growing business, and deliver more flexibility. In 2014, this inefficiency was brought into sharp reality when they needed to migrate their operating systems software, which included the daunting task of replacing 600 PCs that lacked central control and were funded by individual project budgets. Skanska UK decided to work with HP Financial Services to radically change the way they approached their IT provision and IT investment strategies.

Solution

IT is now a competitive weapon for Skanska UK, and working with HP Financial Services, has helped them approach IT provision and investment in a more systematized manner. This ensures that new equipment can be ordered, configured and delivered quickly to meet project demands, and that technology is refreshed and kept up-to-date, as well as safely retired at end-of-life. Skanska UK transacts most of its business through a reseller, Storm Technologies, who holds a buffer of pre-configured stock. HP Financial Services allocates the resources to ensure that the whole process is managed smoothly and efficiently.

This modified approach has enabled Skanska UK to move to a streamlined central IT inventory, financed centrally through its operating budget, from which project teams can order and for which they are recharged on a monthly basis.

Benefits

- Keep pace with the technology needed to support project requirements
- Leverage in-house IT capabilities for competitive advantage and to support the needs of building information modeling
- Manage costs in line with revenues
- A trusted partner to help manage IT through the entire lifecycle
- Increased flexibility to accommodate changes in demand



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