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Success Story

Ministry of Sound Boosts Network Resilience with Zyxel Switching Solution

INDUSTRY
Entertainment

CUSTOMER
Ministry of Sound

REGION
UK

SOLUTIONS
Zyxel Switching Solution

Overview

Challenges

- Add 10GB storage network and robust virtual platform
- Improve port security and resilience
- Introduce flexibility and increased control over network, including power over Ethernet (PoE)
- Utilize and integrate with existing Zyxel core switch
- Improve bandwidth delivery to end devices from 100Mbps to 1Gbps
- Introduce of PoE with Zyxel's consumption mode
- Introduce 10G switching network to support storage and virtual server infrastructure

Benefits

- Best possible bandwidth delivered in the office and nightclub
- Unrivalled reliability and performance
- Improved reliability and performance on the virtual server platform
- Incorporating all data into a single IP network provides more effective communications, centralized IT management, and lower overall deployment cost for the organization
- Convergent data, video, and voice networking challenges met
- Rich traffic shaping, network isolation, and security features.

Solutions

- 24-port Gigabit L2 PoE switch
- 10 Gigabit Smart Managed Switch

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Background

The Ministry of Sound brand is synonymous with the music industry and nightlife scene. With its albums having sold in the millions around the world, it is undeniably the most commercial name in the clubbing market.

Established as a nightclub in 1991, the Ministry of Sound is now London's number-one nightclub for dance and house music, and has since diversified into a multimedia entertainment business. In addition to the club, it is an independent record label and worldwide events brand with a radio station and other media outlets.

Challenges

Rapidly changing workplace trends such as remote and flexible work, as well as increased use of data-rich applications across the network meant that the Ministry of Sound needed to improve overall operational efficiency by utilizing applications and services in the cloud.

This migration to the cloud throughout the business led to a need to upgrade several tools and services that employees utilize on a daily basis. For example, Office 365, Microsoft OneDrive, and Adobe Cloud Management Suite were implemented to store and run the day-to-day services Ministry of Sound required. This was carried out by utilizing the cloud.

As with all companies wishing to leverage the best from their staff and technology, the infrastructure to support a growing and flexible workplace, especially in such a media-rich environment, is an essential part of a cohesive business strategy. Ministry of Sound understood the need to move to a faster platform and wanted to do this while taking advantage of advancements in Zyxel switching technology both in management and in security.

With employees and partners now leveraging the cloud for business processes, the need for improved connectivity speeds, bandwidth, and security was of paramount importance.

Solutions and Benefits

Previously, the Ministry of Sound managed each switch individually. For example, the core had one management interface, while each edge switch in both the nightclub and main office had additional management interfaces.

To solve this issue, Zyxel created a centralized management console, the MM7201 Modular Switch, to connect all of the GS2210 24-port Gigabit L2 PoE switches together, while allowing the office-based network to run off its own separate LAN and the nightclub to run off another. With the same switches now across both networks —10 GS2210s in the office and 5 in the club — the networks are able to run separate from one another with greater bandwidth, and are more easily controlled and managed centrally should quick changes need to be implemented.

XS1920-12 10 Gigabit Smart Managed Switchs were used to create the storage network, giving the company a cost-effective way to expand and deploy their storage solution. This allowed Ministry of Sound to cope with new demand in both complex lighting and sound equipment control, as well as the production and storage of media-rich content. The switches have given the company a solution for both resilience and performance on their storage andvirtual server platform.

With so much data now stored in the cloud, network security was also a big issue that needed addressing. However, the GS2210 switches provide new features such as port isolation, which improve the way the networks are secured and make it easier to troubleshoot for problems when they arise.

Also essential to business continuity was the ability to react swiftly to disaster recovery. Previously, with on-premises servers, an external team would have to be called on-site to address the any issues. Having moved data to the cloud, these issues can now be solved with the flick of a switch.

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Products Used

XS1920-12 • 12-port 10GbE Smart Managed Switch

- Upgrades your network to 10GbE connectivity easily and economically
- Simplified configuration with user-friendly web-based management GUI
- Flexible 10G connection to 10G servers and network storage through both copper and fiber
- Zyxel One Network experience enables simple network management and maintenance
- Dual firmware imaging and configuration ensure network availability
- Future-proofed with IPv6 support

GS2210-24HP • 24-port GbE L2 PoE Switches

- Fully managed Layer 2 switching solution
- GbE RJ-45 and GbE SFP connectivity
- Complies with IEEE 802.3af PoE and 802.3at PoE Plus
- High 375 W power budget
- L2 multicast, IGMP snooping, MVR and voice VLAN for convergence
- Enhanced network protection with IP source guard, DHCP snooping, ARP inspection, CPU protection
- L2, L3 and L4 filtering, MAC freeze, port isolation, guest VLAN for improved isolation and access control
- Future-proofed with IPv6 support
- Supports ZON Utility and Smart Connect for easier, more efficient setup and management

About Zyxel Communications

Focused on innovation and customer-centricity, Zyxel Communications has been connecting people to the Internet for nearly 30 years. Our ability to adapt and innovate with networking technology places us at the forefront of creating connectivity for telcos and service providers, business and home users. Zyxel is building the networks of tomorrow, unlocking potential, and meeting the needs of the modern workplace — powering people at work, life, and play. Zyxel, Your Networking Ally.