

The Installation of Wi-Fi and Secure VPN Remote Branch Access



Client:

College of Occupational Therapists



Partner:

Browns IT

About the company:

Based in Southwark, London the College of Occupational Therapists (COT) are the professional association representing individuals and organisations that practice occupational therapy. They currently support over 30,000 subscribed members on a range of subjects from training and insurance through to business development and to keep them abreast of current news and developments relevant to the sector.

A key requirement for COT is to keep members fully up-to-date with issues and be highly knowledgeable on legislation and “best practice” to help ensure OT is delivered professionally and according to guidelines.

The Overview

COT, a company with a central office in London and several remote offices and home-based staff, required reliable and secure remote access to their London-based systems. Browns IT recommended and implemented DrayTek’s Vigor routers and firewall solutions. The system’s seamless functionality and proactive network management via DrayTek’s ACS-SI have ensured minimal disruptions and optimal performance. Phillip from COT praised the solution’s effectiveness, highlighting its transparency in operation.

The Requirement

COT consists of a head office in London with 70 staff, 6 remote offices based in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and 3 home-based staff. As part of a general updating of the office systems it was necessary for all remote offices and workers to have reliable and secure remote access to the systems based in London.

The key requirements were:

For the remote sites

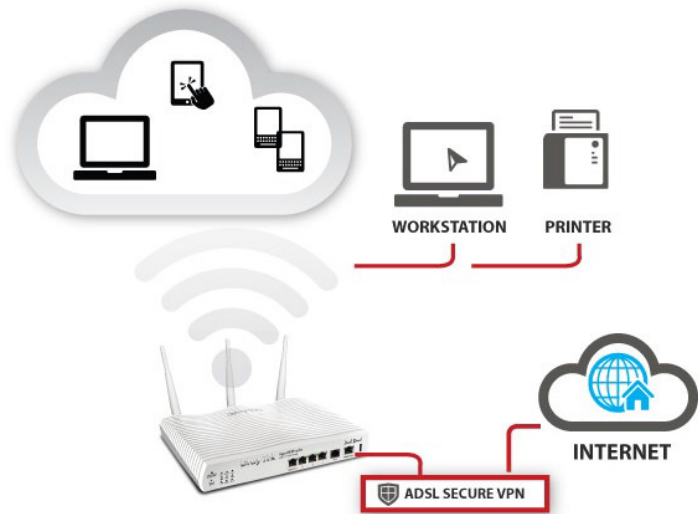
- Implementation of ADSL broadband with Business Class routers in the 6 remote offices and
- for 3 home workers.
- Provision of Wi-Fi at the remote locations to support Blackberry Smart Phones, Microsoft
- Surface Tablets or Laptops.
- Support for a workstation and printer with a wired LAN connection
- Secure VPN access to head office

For the head office

- A firewall capable of supporting a 100Mb/s broadband circuit that terminates the incoming 9 x VPN connections

As Phillip Lennon , Head of Finance explains...

"The Country Policy Officers based in our remote offices need constant access to head office systems for email, central files and databases to enable them to respond quickly to the needs of the members. Any downtime or interruption of service can have a major effect on their ability to support incoming requests and enquiries."



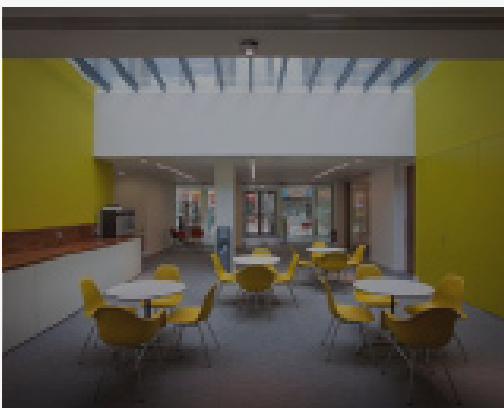
The Solution

Once the requirements were agreed COT contacted Browns IT, a specialist value added reseller that recommends, implements and supports IT infrastructure, office systems and remote networking. As Phillip explains "Browns IT have worked with us for many years helping us build a reliable and effective IT system, they really understand our business and have been incredibly responsive when we've really needed them."

In conjunction with Draytek, Browns IT recommended installing Vigor 2830n routers for the remote sites and a Vigor 2960 firewall for the central site VPN concentrator.

The routers, DrayTek's flagship offering, provide wireless "n" Wi-Fi to connect the mobile devices, a high speed ADSL modem, VPN support and LAN ports to connect the printer and workstation.

This provides a highly cost effective "one box" solution for all the remote sites networking needs.



Products:



Vigor 2830n



Vigor 2960

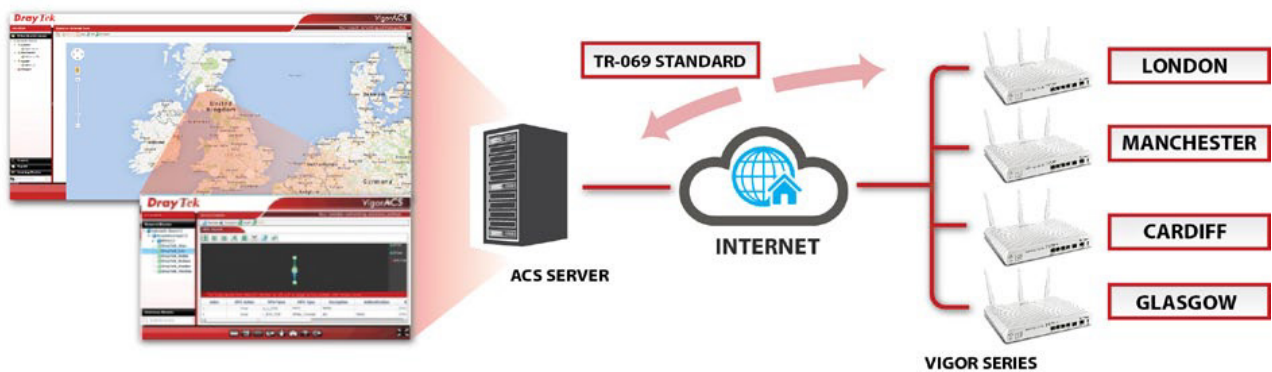
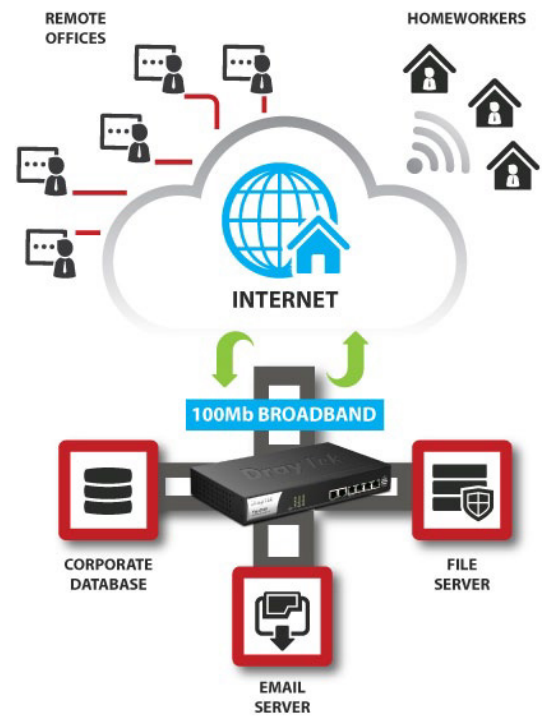
The Conclusion

At the central site a high speed Vigor 2960 was installed to terminate the 100Mb/s broadband with 9 VPNs. With a 500 Mb/s capacity and the ability to terminate up to 200 VPNs this was a high quality solution with plenty of room for expansion.

Phillip goes on to explain "Now it's installed, the ultimate praise I can give to the network is that we don't really know it's there! It's a solution that just works."

In order to maximise uptime and take a pro-active approach to the network, Brown's IT are implementing DrayTek's central network management solution, ACS -SI.

This allows the network manager to monitor traffic to help identify usage and potential bottlenecks, manage router configurations across the estate and automatically update firmware as needed. ACS-SI can be securely accessed via an internet browser offering flexibility for use.



DrayTek Corp. was established in 1997 with a mission to design and build premium networking products to help business make their most of the online connectivity. DrayTek's product lines range from enterprise-level firewall Security, VPN facilities for teleworking and branch-linking, versatile xDSL CPE, Switching, Voice-over-IP and wireless solutions:

- Complete range of WAN Security/Routing products
- Headquarters, Taipei, Taiwan, ROC
- Specialising in innovative networking products Worldwide Distribution and offices
- Listed on Taiwanese Stock Exchange 2004
- 180 employees worldwide, 45% R&D
- ISO 9001 Certified

DrayTek

CMS Distribution
2nd Floor, 15 Worship Street
London
EC2A 2DT, UK

Email : info@draytek.co.uk
Telephone : 0345 5570007
VoIP : 800800@draytel.org (SIP)