

Architect Cuts Design Time and Ensures Regulatory Compliance

Customer Case Study



A PLUS speeds decision-making and improves efficiency with Cisco collaboration tools, extending to partners and clients

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Customer Name: A PLUS

Industry: Architectural design and construction

Location: Brno, Czech Republic

Number of Employees: 40

Challenge

- Enhance communications and speed decision-making
- Improve reach and cost effectiveness of training programs

Solution

- Cisco collaboration platform to support working together more effectively and in real time via voice, video, web conferencing, and other channels

Results

- Easier to interact with colleagues, partners, and clients
- Reduced client approval cycles, from months to weeks
- Better training delivery, saving on time and expense

Challenge

Based in Brno, the second city of the Czech Republic, A PLUS specializes in the design of emblematic buildings and leads its industry in central Europe under the stewardship of Dr. Ing. Karel Tuza, CEO, Patrik Tuza, senior project manager, Petr Uhlir, chief architect, and Dr. Ing. Jaromir Cerny, financial director.

As a modern architecture studio the company has technology at the heart of its activities, from the systems used to create spectacular designs to best practice recommendations offered to clients. Until recently, however, its communications systems were relatively unsophisticated, consisting mainly of traditional phone, fax, and email. These limitations posed a challenge, especially when trying to convey detailed plans to clients and investors.

Solution

Working with system integrator Simac Technik ČR (part of the Dutch holding Simac Techniek N.V.) A PLUS deployed a range of Cisco® collaboration technologies, including Cisco WebEx® and Cisco Jabber™ Video for TelePresence. The transformation was completed with Cisco TelePresence® Video Communication Server Starter Pack Express, Cisco TelePresence Codec C40, and a Cisco TelePresence MCU 5300 Series multipoint control unit.

“Our trusted partner, Simac Technik, recommended Cisco,” says the A PLUS quality manager Jiří Hloska. “And we also received a strong endorsement from Brno University of Technology.” In addition, the company had the reassurance of working with a leading brand. “Cisco is a famous, worldwide technology company,” adds Hloska.

The suite of collaboration applications is delivered over a Cisco network for optimal user experience. The LAN comprises Cisco Catalyst® 3750-X and 2960 Series Switches and a range of access points managed by a Cisco 2500 Series Wireless Controller, with an ASA 5510 Series Adaptive Security Appliance for security and firewalling.



“Cisco Jabber, on our PCs and notebooks and those of our partners, is a fine tool. It makes it easy to share content and work together in real time, for example, on urgent changes to drawings and plans.”

Jiří Hloska
Quality Manager
A PLUS

Results

Cisco collaboration tools allow A PLUS to communicate much more efficiently with its business partners and clients. “It’s very important,” Hloska says, “because we reduce time and effort at all stages of the process: from briefing and design through to obtaining the correct permissions and project management.”

By accelerating the decision-making process at the A PLUS studio, the Cisco collaboration tools mean the company can speed the time it takes to get approval on plans and designs, potentially from months to weeks.

Hloska says: “Cisco Jabber, on our PCs and notebooks and those of our partners, is a fine tool. It makes it easy to share content and work together in real time, for example, on urgent changes to drawings and plans.”

Finally, A PLUS is involved in significant amounts of professional training and is able to carry this out more efficiently. “Before, training was mainly conducted on a one-to-one basis, via the phone or face-to-face meetings,” Hloska says. “Now, we can update everyone on changes to design standards and building regulations in one go via TelePresence or WebEx. This is another way in which we are removing cost and giving people time back.”

For More Information

To learn more about the Cisco architectures and solutions featured in this case study, go to: www.cisco.com/go/collaboration

Product List

Collaboration

- Cisco TelePresence Video Communication Server Starter Pack Express
- Cisco TelePresence MCU 5300 Series
- Cisco TelePresence Codec C40
- Cisco TelePresence Management Suite
- Cisco WebEx
- Cisco Jabber Video for TelePresence

Routing and Switching

- Cisco Catalyst 3750-X Series Switches
- Cisco Catalyst 2960 Series Switches

Wireless

- Cisco 2500 Series Wireless Controller

Security

- Cisco ASA 5510 Series Adaptive Security Appliance



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