



BLACK BOX[®]

NETWORK SERVICES



Starwood Hotels knew it could count on Black Box to get the job done—without any reservations or hesitation.

Industry: Hospitality

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

Project: Installing a new data center using fiber optic and CAT6 cable

Major Challenge: Installing a data center on an unfinished floor, in six days, while keeping the entire reservation system up and running

The project with multiple challenges.

When Starwood Hotels wanted to upgrade the IT department at its European headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, it called Black Box. The company wanted a new data center using up-to-date fiber optic and CAT6 unshielded twisted pair (UTP) cable.

The project presented some challenges. The new data center was to be one floor below the existing data center in an unfinished area. There was an extremely tight six-day time frame because of the construction schedule. And, Starwood needed to keep its reservation system up and running.

Our successful method.

There were a number of steps involved in transforming the unfinished space into a data center. First, Black Box ran lines from the existing data center to the new data center a floor below. Next, Black Box moved and connected all the equipment, including racks, servers, switches, and routers. Then, all the cabling needed to be tested. This involved checking more than 200 separate fiber optic and CAT6 cables. Black Box also made the interconnections for a fiber optic backbone running between several floors.

The project was a success. Black Box completed the job on time and on budget!

"The Black Box team was extremely efficient and professional. I must say that everything went according to the plan, and the help we got from Black Box was really great! You have a great team and they should be commended for doing an excellent job."

Gustaf Burman, IT Project Manager EAME, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.