

CASE STUDY

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG – SOCCER CITY

»OUR INTERACTION WITH FUJITSU WAS EXTREMELY POSITIVE. THEIR INPUT WAS INVALUABLE AND THEY CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND EXPERTISE.«

Barry Pollen, Director, Stadium Management (Pty) Ltd



JOHANNESBURG – A WORLD-CLASS AFRICAN CITY

The City of Johannesburg (South Africa), the most powerful commercial centre on the African continent, played host to both the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Soccer City, Johannesburg’s landmark new football stadium and the largest stadium on the African continent, was the headquarters of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.

From the perspective of the City of Johannesburg, the stadium, which was designed and built for the World Cup and which hosted the most games of the 2010 tournament, had to be world-class to amplify the city’s communications theme of: “Johannesburg, a world-class African city”. The unique design of the stadium, which is shaped like a traditional African pot known as a calabash, has won acclaim for its architectural excellence.

The sheer size of the stadium and the number of spectators it is designed to accommodate placed substantial requirements on the underlying IT systems and solutions and Fujitsu played a key role through being responsible for the project related to Legacy IT and Electronics Systems as a turn-key project. These systems and solutions needed to be designed and implemented in time for the commencement of the 2010 World Cup, however they will remain operational at the stadium after the end of the World Cup.

FUJITSU’S ROLE

In addition to the traditional corporate IT Systems, Fujitsu also supplied the IT infrastructure for the Building Management Systems, Access Control, Ticketing System and Venue Operation Centre. These systems collectively manage the operation of the stadium functions from a central point and are responsible for switching on stadium flood lights; viewing of camera footage inside and outside of the stadium; access control for spectators and suite owners via the ticketing system; the stadium public address system; and monitoring human traffic.

“The project commenced as a Network project with the key requirement being the network connectivity within the stadium and the surrounding precinct,” says Donovan Titus, Key Account Manager at Fujitsu South Africa. “The architects designed the stadium with the intention of making it the greatest stadium in the world and the network infrastructure uses the most modern technology available.” Modern high-speed fibre and copper cables connect all the network systems within the stadium linking over 80 Cisco Systems LAN switches inside the stadium and the surrounding precinct.

THE CUSTOMER

The City of Johannesburg was the headquarters of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Soccer City, Johannesburg’s iconic stadium, was host to the opening and final matches of the tournament.

THE PROJECT

IT and Infrastructure solutions for Soccer City Stadium. Design, supply and implement a modern turnkey infrastructure solution able to deliver world-class service across a common TCP/IP Network.

THE SOLUTION

Collaboration with project partners Cisco and ADCKrone ensured that the Fujitsu solution was a compelling, logical and workable one. The project was one in which Fujitsu demonstrated the ability to deliver platforms, services and solutions in one comprehensive bundle in order to best meet the requirements of the client.

BENEFITS FOR THE CUSTOMER

- Legacy IT solutions which will continue to serve the stadium for many years
- Powerful IT infrastructure for all IT running within the stadium complex
- Simplification of Network support
- Comprehensive Stadium Management solution and Operations Centre
- State-of-the-art service running across a common TCP/IP network

HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, SERVICES

- Fujitsu – PRIMERGY Servers; CELSIUS Workstations; Displays; FUTRO Thin Client
- Cisco Systems Network, Firewalls and WLAN equipment
- ADCKrone cabling
- Software/Applications: Dallmeister SEMSY; Cisco Works Management; SAFLOK Access Control; Fortress GB Ticketing Solutions (separate FIFA contract)
- Operating System: Windows® 7 and Windows Server® 2008
- Database: MS-SQL
- Services: Turn-key project from design to implementation

Fujitsu was awarded the Cisco Systems 2009 Global Smart Care Partner of the Year Award for this project. Fujitsu employees also provided on-site support services at the venue for the full duration of the World Cup as part of FIFA requirements related to infrastructure support.

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT – A SOLUTIONS APPROACH

Fujitsu was instrumental in the design and the planning of the Computer Rooms, which contain several Fujitsu Racks. It is in the Venue Operations Centre (VOC) where Fujitsu equipment is at its most visible. Here Celsius PC's and PRIMERGY servers combine to power the heart of the stadium's operations. It is where all elements of all events will be monitored. The system is extremely powerful and allows for the monitoring and observation of specific individuals.

As the stadium was being built from the foundations up, this was a new project and the architecture, design and implementation of the solution was vital.

“Fujitsu won the project through having the best overall value proposition for the City of Johannesburg,” says Titus. “We demonstrated a clear understanding of the requirements of the project and drew from international resources where we have experience in projects of a similar nature.”

ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE

Environmental issues were not key to the decision process, however it was acknowledged that Fujitsu's reputation as an environmentally-responsible manufacturer and integrator positively influenced the final decision to contract Fujitsu.

SOCCER CITY – A WORLD-CLASS STADIUM

Throughout the entire World Cup period and through events held at the venue subsequent to the World Cup, the systems at Soccer City have performed faultlessly.

“WE ARE PROUD OF SOCCER CITY AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SYSTEMS WITHIN THE VENUE WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY AND OFFER SPECTATORS A TOTALLY UNPARALLELED, WORLD-CLASS EXPERIENCE.”



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