

DTA revolutionises Hill and Knowlton

Asset management revolutionised at Hill and Knowlton

- new audit software improves efficiency and reduces costs -

International PR consultancy network, Hill and Knowlton (H&K) has revolutionised the management of its European IT assets, enabled daily reporting, increased efficiency and reduced costs by implementing innovative new software developed in South Africa.

"Previously we did not have a clear idea of the bigger picture and wasted money, time and energy tracking our IT resources and organising manual audits," explained Chris Goosen, H&K European CIO.

"Consequently, much of the information was out of date by the time the audits were complete! We really needed to gain control and were looking for a completely automated system with a CMDB (Change Management Database) which would not only tracks all assets across the WAN but also manage license compliance."

Having looked at various solutions, H&K chose to go with DTA - specialist software from ITA Logic which provides the tools to proactively audit network assets and transforms the data to produce invaluable management information. "The combination of the right tools in DTA and the right support from ITA Logic was key in helping us make the decision," added Goosen. "We were more than happy with ITA Logic's support, onsite installation, training and consultancy which really enabled us to hit the ground running."

DTA provides a central consol for all the Assets in the WAN, making them easy to manage and also offering a comprehensive range of features including: excellent reporting capabilities; budget planning modules; software profiling; licence management; and the ability to customise the interaction interface with the user remote control capabilities.

The solution runs on a central Windows 2003 server, using SQL Server 2000 as the back-end database. It performs an audit of PCs when users log onto the network and the data is stored and updated on the server. Alerts are activated if any changes have been made to hardware or software on any machine since the last audit. The software also has a CMDB database and a separate asset register.

Cont/...

DTA revolutionises Hill and Knowlton

Since installation, the company has continuous access to information on what assets there are, where they are, how many people are using them and whether all licenses are present and correct. Overall, this has had an enormous impact on the day to day management of the European WAN.

The ability to quantify hardware and software, proactively plan for future IT projects and contain the spread of software piracy, has made DTA an invaluable management tool for the company. Regular and accurate reporting to senior management is now easy with all the necessary information easily accessed through the new system. The inventory and reporting capabilities also make planning for major projects, upgrades and offices moves a relatively simple task.

Key Benefits:

- Reduce IT spend by optimising existing computer assets
- Identify potentially under or incorrectly configured hardware
- Minimise risk of software licensing penalties by tracking installed software
- Reduce costs through automated audits
- Accurate budgeting
- Produce accurate, bespoke reporting on all audited assets

“Implementation was seamless and we are delighted to finally have day to day control of all our IT assets,” concludes Goosen. “Our company is heavily regulated and the new software has really streamlined the way we comply with and report on the required financial and managerial compliance processes. DTA has really taken the pain out of the Asset tracking and consolidation required for us to remain Sarbanes Oxley compliant.”