

Case Study

Industry: Manufacturing

Tenax Group

Project: Network infrastructures

Major challenge: Multiple, worldwide installations



The background.

Tenax is an international group of companies that manufactures plastic nets, fences, and geosynthetics. Based in Italy, Tenax operates plants in Europe, North America, India, and China. Because of its widespread geographical footprint, the company's information system is critical to the business. All branches and operations need on-line access to common databases and the ability to share information.

In an effort to make its information system more uniform, the company commissioned Black Box to do a detailed study of a common communication infrastructure. The system would begin with the headquarters in northern Italy and a new subsidiary in China.

Black Box's relationship with Tenax began with the successful deployment of a wireless LAN at the company's headquarters. Based on that experience, Tenax asked Black Box to do the study.

The network.

After completion of the study, Tenax asked Black Box to begin its worldwide network upgrades, starting with the installation of a new structured cabling system, network devices, and a PBX system at Tenax China in Tianjin city.

Black Box worked with Tenax to plan and design a system that could be uniformly deployed at other Tenax facilities. Tenax also wanted an infrastructure designed with enough bandwidth to serve the company well into the future.

To achieve these goals, a Category 6 voice and data system was deemed best. The network is a Guaranteed-for-Life Structured

Cabling System consisting of Black Box® brand Category 6 cable and all necessary components, such as outlets, connectors, faceplates, patch panels, etc. Black Box also provided the hardware and installation for the cable pathway in the data center. Other cabling includes coax cable for video capabilities.

The future.

As the infrastructure services provider, Black Box continues to work with Tenax in developing the company's infrastructure plans.

The installation in China was the first of a long-term deployment involving data centers around the world. For easier management and maintenance, each center will

have an identical storage area network and an identical infrastructure system. This way, all branches can access, gather, and share data in the same manner. These new systems will enable every location to send and receive updated information every day, to share information among branches, and to communicate with the headquarters.

Tenax chose Black Box because of its vast geographic footprint and ability to offer the same quality and replicate the same system in all Tenax sites. It was important to Tenax to work with a provider who can design, manage, install, and provide maintenance for Tenax data centers around the world. Black Box truly offers Tenax a one-source solution for seamless management of its network infrastructure upgrades around the world.

"To the Black Box team which completed the cable job: Your work efficiency is very high. Thank you."

Mr. Xuxiahou, Manager, Tenax, China



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