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Laura Chen,
Regional Sales Director, Greater China,
CommScope Enterprise Division

CITIC Securities Trusts CommScope Infrastructure for Data Center and Intelligent Building Systems at New Beijing Offices

Flexibility and fast delivery win the structured cabling contract for SYSTIMAX 360™ solutions at leading Chinese investment bank

Summary: In fast growing financial services companies, essential information has to be delivered promptly, and so do vital new information systems. At CITIC Securities, a flexible, high performance network infrastructure was needed quickly to keep up with demand driven by the rapidly expanding Chinese economy. CommScope was able to meet all these requirements with its SYSTIMAX 360 range of structured cabling solutions

Founded in October 1995, CITIC Securities is the first Chinese full-service investment bank established in China. Its services include securities trading, underwriting, proprietary trading, asset management and securities investment advisory services.

As China's economy has grown, so has the scale and range of CITIC Securities' business. Today it has net capital over RMB600 billion, more than 250 branches and in excess of 10,000 employees. From headquarters in Shenzhen, it now manages subsidiaries offering a growing portfolio of cross-border, one-stop financial services for both national and international clients.

Business and administration facilities newly built in central Beijing are a key part of the Company's plan for continued expansion. The 23-floor building with a construction area of 57,000m² includes a 1,000m² data center and sophisticated building control systems. These and many other IT applications are all supported by an integrated data network with 12,600 outlets.

Selecting the right company to deliver the network infrastructure was a key decision during the project's planning phase. CITIC wanted a range of structured cabling solutions integrated to deliver reliable end-to-end performance to all networked applications. Added to this, it needed a flexible network configuration to support its future business plans.

Strong Record, Fast Delivery

CommScope stood out among infrastructure suppliers for its record of success with data centers and building control installations, and strong references in the financial sector. The company's SYSTIMAX® infrastructure solutions support many large networks in China including ones at Bank of China, Shanghai Bank and China UnionPay. In these and many other networks, SYSTIMAX solutions have demonstrated ability to meet a wide variety of needs with their combination of reliability and high performance.

CITIC was also an existing customer, CommScope having supplied infrastructure for a project at the company's Qingdao site. However, CommScope faced fierce competition for the Beijing project and had to make a strong business case to win the contract.

A key CommScope advantage was the level of stock held by its distributors in China and their highly developed logistics. This allowed it to meet project deadlines by delivering 1,300 boxes of cables and related apparatus to the site within one week.

Flexible Infrastructure

CITIC chose Beijing Chatone Computer Room Equipment and Engineering Co., Ltd., a CommScope Prestige BusinessPartner, to install the infrastructure. This company had full responsibility for the data center and worked with Beijing Guoan Electrical Company on the intelligent building systems.

Meeting the needs of a data center and building control systems, as well as business applications, VoIP and CCTV, demanded versatile solutions. In addition, CITIC needed patching hardware that allowed the infrastructure to be changed and expanded quickly. CommScope was able to meet all these requirements with a combination of SYSTIMAX copper and fiber solutions and PATCHMAX® patching hardware.

To meet the copper cabling requirement, Beijing Chatone installed 1,200km Low smoke Zero Halogen, GigaSPEED XL cabling. This easily exceeds specifications of the Category 6/Class E cabling standards, supporting 1Gb/s connections up to 100m even under adverse operating conditions.

In the data center and network backbones, the installation team made extensive use of LazrSPEED® multimode fiber cabling. Two types were installed, LazrSPEED 150 and LazrSPEED 300, supporting data transmission at 10Gb/s over distances up to 150 and 300 meters respectively.

LazrSPEED solutions are laser optimized to deliver high data transmission rates without the need for expensive electronics. Their performance exceeds specifications of the OM3 fiber standard, and they can also support speeds above 10Gb/s over shorter distances.

Around 9,000m of LazrSPEED cable were installed within the data center and between the 30 distribution frames located throughout the building. The LazrSPEED solution also connects the distribution frames to the data center.

PATCHMAX Versatility

Beijing Chatone deployed a team of up to 60 people on the cabling installation in office areas and up to 30 people in the data center. Most cabling in both areas is run at high level in overhead cable trays or cableways above ceilings. In office areas there are dropdowns to wall mounted outlets.

Within the data center and distribution frames, technicians installed 540 PATCHMAX modular panels each able to accommodate up to 48 ports. The panel system is designed to accept either four or eight distribution modules, each with six ports.

The modules can be rotated forward, giving easy access to terminals for cable termination. Using this feature gives important time savings during both installation and maintenance. Other features of the PATCHMAX solutions designed for convenience and time saving include built in cable management and clear labelling of ports.

A key advantage of the PATCHMAX solution is that it can accommodate both copper and fiber modules. This allows CITIC great flexibility in evolving and expanding its network infrastructure, making it easy to replace copper with higher performance fiber cabling if required.

Speed and Reliability

Commenting on the CITIC project, Laura Chen, Regional Sales Director, Greater China, CommScope Enterprise Division said: "In this application, as is often the case, data transmission is not the only area where speed and reliability is critical.

The network infrastructure had to be installed against a tight schedule as part of construction and fitting-out phase with very demanding deadlines.

"Our local distributor and BusinessPartners had the resources – in terms of immediately available staff and materials in local warehouses - to meet this challenge.

"Added to this, the design of our solutions, in particular the PATCHMAX solution, facilitates fast installation and, when in operation, fast moves, adds and changes. This allows CITIC upgrade, grow and re-shape its network as its own business expands and changes."



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