

# SYSTIMAX®

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## SOLUTIONS

## VisiPatch™ Provides E.G.O. with an Elegant Cabling Solution

**Compact new patch panels cut clutter to ease cable installation and management**

The SYSTIMAX® VisiPatch™ System has helped eliminate cable clutter in the new network installation at E.G.O. Austria Elektrogeräte Ges.m.b.H. Based on the well-proven SYSTIMAX 110 the VisiPatch System not only packs 12 per cent more connectors into the same space, it makes patch panels neat, tidy and easier to maintain.

At Heinfels in the Austrian Tirol, the new panels are part of a SYSTIMAX GigaSPEED® cabling solution at E.G.O.'s factory producing electrical heating and catering equipment. The high performance cabling has been installed to support new ERP (enterprise resource planning) software that will increase efficiency right across the company's operations.

The unique, reverse-direction patching of the VisiPatch System allows clear labelling of connectors and much improved cable management. This means that patch panels need no longer look like a mass of intermingled wires. Patch cords run through channels and guides at the reverse of the panel, leaving the front clear to work on. This saves time during installation and maintenance and, with the improved labelling, reduces the risk of incorrect connections when new equipment is connected.

The panels also save space since they are optimized for 4-pair cables, allowing 336 connectors to be located in a 12-row panel. This is 36 more than the design that VisiPatch replaces. The space saving is important at E.G.O., as in any business, because it allows maximum use of valuable floor area for productive purposes.

### Serving SAP

When E.G.O. decided to invest in SAP ERP software at its Heinfels factory, it was clear that a high performance network was needed to handle the extra data traffic. For implementation of a complete, 100 Mb/s system with potential for upgrading to gigabit speeds, the company went to GE Capital Information Technology Solutions (GECITS), a SYSTIMAX Solutions System Integrator with offices across Europe and world-wide. SYSTIMAX distributor, Anixter, supplied all the cabling and components.

The VisiPatch System was specified because of its practical, time- and space-saving features. A deciding factor, however, was the tidy appearance combined with ease of access, even in fully populated patch panels. The tangle of patch cordage inevitable with conventional panels, where patch cords project forwards, is completely eliminated with the new design.

Behind the panel, cabling is also fully managed using slots moulded into the stackable plastic "L" beams that support the connector blocks. This ensures the layout behind the panels is as neat and organized as it is in front.

Among the other practical features of the VisiPatch System are stackable connector supports, made in high strength, high resistance plastic, that snap together for easy assembly. Patch cord plugs also locate with an audible click to give extra confidence that a good connection has been made. The biggest benefits, however, come from putting labelling at the front, where it is clearly visible, while directing cords rearwards. This makes finding the right connection much easier, so the new panels easier to work with as well as being easier on the eye.

"The new panel is a pleasure to work with," said Heinz-Dieter Neumair of GECITS, who managed the cabling work at E.G.O. "It makes installation and subsequent re-patching much quicker, and the end result looks better than patch panels ever looked before."

**For more information on GECITS, visit**  
**[http://www.gecits-eu.com/austria\\_contact.html](http://www.gecits-eu.com/austria_contact.html)**

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