

## SQS

Fast-growing tech company uses Star hosting services to support rapid growth

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### SQS

SQS is a specialist independent software testing consultancy, which employs over 150 people. Through its offices in London, Dublin and Durban, the company tests mission critical systems to minimise their associated risks, control costs and reduce their time to market. It delivers these services to world leading organisations such as BP, Deutsche Bank, Dixons, Glaxo Smith Kline and Vodafone, as well as a number of government institutions.

With its world-class track record in testing and test strategies, SQS is now one of the fastest growing independent testing organisations in the UK.

### Understanding the Issues

SQS is a rapidly expanding business. Due to its success in the market, the company found that managing its network infrastructure in-house was becoming increasingly complex and costly. With a small in-house IT team in place, SQS needed additional support to cope with the expansion demands and continue to deliver secure and resilient IT services to all its customers.

Star had been SQS's technology supplier for the previous two years, managing the company's internal server architecture and providing two leased lines. SQS decided to extend this successful partnership by involving Star in its growth plans. "As a growing business, we recognised that we could not

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continue to rely on our small in-house team to manage our network infrastructure," says Edgar Smith, Director of SQS. "In Star, our most important supplier, we've found an organisation that understands the often highly commercially sensitive, mission critical work we do and has given us confidence that we can meet even the most stringent disaster recovery and security requirements of our customers."

### The Star Solution

Star's new remit involves much wider technology support, delivering a range of connectivity, security and hosting solutions from email, file and print to desktop applications and accounting servers.

As part of its managed technology services provision, Star now hosts SQS's entire server architecture at its state-of-the-art data centre in London. SQS has access to this hosted infrastructure through Star's Multi-Protocol-Label-Switching (MPLS) solution, via fast, secure and reliable links to all its offices.

Resilient security and web filtering services integrated at the data centre reinforce the security of SQS's private MPLS network. By centralising these services, Star has ensured that the risks and resources required to maintain security are kept to a minimum.

Edgar Smith continues, "I was particularly impressed with the amount of effort the Star team put in during the MPLS implementation. They even provided consultancy free of charge to help to migrate to the London data centre. The whole process went extremely smoothly."

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“SQS’s dedication to quality and delivery has fuelled our success. Star replicates these same values, and understands our needs as a mid-sized business. They have provided and managed a wide range of technology solutions for us, ensuring we can deliver effectively and securely to our customers.”

SQS’s in-house team is now benefiting from the additional consultancy and 24-hour support that Star provides under its new remit. Through Star, SQS has access to a flexible, scalable architecture that can meet both the current and future IT requirements of its business. SQS now has access to the latest technologies available but has also reduced the costs associated with in-house systems support and maintenance.

### Looking to the Future

The company is now in a strong position for continued growth. By having a ‘one-stop-shop’ technology provider and manager, SQS can focus its efforts on client strategies, knowing that its IT system is robust and able to cope with future growth demands. With the company expecting growth to continue at the historic year-on-year rate of over 30%, this is an important step forward for the business.

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