

## CASE STUDY

# PERFORMANCE AND SAFETY ARE HIGH PRIORITIES FOR DEXIA BIL WHEN REWIRING

In 2007, Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg moved into its new administration building. The bank's passive communications infrastructure was set up using high-performance products from Datwyler. Safety cables and components from Datwyler play an important role in this financial services provider's fire prevention policy.

Since the beginning of 2004, a prestigious new administration building for Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg (Dexia BIL), with a total surface area of about 80,000 square metres, has been under construction in Esch-Belval. The first two sections of the building were finished at the end of 2006.

The bank's new building has been fitted out with a modern, high-performance communications network over which voice and data can be transmitted simultaneously. In view of the long distances involved and the high volume of data, the building's backbone cabling, which has been structured to be application neutral, consists of OM3 quality fibre optic cables from Datwyler. Altogether, a total of 16 km of fibre optic cable and 124 extendible optical distribution frames were installed. The horizontal cabling comprises well over 5,000 copper links with a total length of 270 km and uses Uninet Category 7 data cable and high-quality patch cable.

### Equipped for the future

The installed copper cables offer bandwidth of up to 1,000 MHz. Combining them with the chosen connection technology and fibre optic cables for the main circuits means that Dexia can handle all the most commonly used banking applications such as international share dealing, at transmission rates of up to 1 Gbps. The bank is also equipped to deal with future applications such as 10 Gigabit Ethernet.

### Fire prevention measures

To comply with Luxembourg's strict legislation, the entire power supply in the building had to be delivered using halogen-free cables. In installations where fire prevention is an issue, there even has to be E90 functional integrity. These cables and fixing components also come from Datwyler.

Altogether nearly 400 km of Pyrofil safety cable were used, of which about 40 km was E90 cable with ceramic insulation. This ensures that in case of a fire, the emergency lighting, the fire alarm systems, heat and smoke extractors and sprinklers continue to be supplied with power for at least one-and-a-half hours.

### Reduced installation times

"The installation went smoothly in every respect, not least because the materials are so easy to assemble, which significantly reduces the installation time", confirmed project manager, Michael Gitzen of Muller et fils. Because the entire Datwyler system is approved for compliance with building regulations, no problems arose during the strict acceptance testing of the cabling installation by the inspecting authorities.

### Positive outcome

"In Datwyler, we have found a reliable, conscientious and efficient partner", said Michael Gitzen. "The company has many years of experience not only of cable installations with E30 to E90 functional integrity, but also of data and networking technology. We told them our requirements and delivery deadlines and we received everything on time, even when there were large quantities and tight schedules involved, and everything was technically perfect. The partnership could not have gone better".

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