

## CASE STUDY

# HILVERSUM TOWN HALL: LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR A NATIONAL MONUMENT

The Datwyler network in Hilversum Town Hall is an example of how installation can be carried out in a listed building during ongoing operation.



The town hall in the Dutch city of Hilversum is a “Rijksmonument”, a national monument. It was designed by the famous architect Willem Marinus Dudok, completed in 1931, and is considered to be his most important work. It is one of the buildings to be seen in Madurodam, the miniature park in The Hague.

When MIT Installatietechniek was awarded the contract to modernise the communications network in the Town Hall, it was clear from the outset that this would be no simple job, for the building’s status as a national monument presented the installers with major challenges.

### Experienced partners

For 15 years MIT Installatietechniek, based in Almere, has been implementing building technology installations for customers in the municipalities of Almere, Gooise Meren Hilversum, Huizen, AMC and Waternet. Together with Redlink B.V., Datwyler’s official distributor in the Netherlands for many years, the MIT team has also completed this project successfully.

To future-proof the office environment, the existing Category 5e network, which unfortunately was poorly documented, was replaced by a new 10-gigabit-compatible network with Cat.6A cables and components from Datwyler.

First the backbone network had to be renewed. MIT set up a fibre optic ring, which connects a total of four sub-distribution rooms in the building with the central plant room. This structure was needed to keep the copper links to the workstations at less than the maximum 100 metres.

### All challenges overcome

The Town Hall remained open during the renovation. It could have been very inconvenient for everyone working at the Town Hall if the requisite inlets and openings for the backbone network had been created at the same time. Thanks, however, to close coordination with the municipality, intelligent project planning and the great care taken by the installers, who moved forward section by section as planned, the staff remained largely inconvenienced.





Another challenge was posed by the new European Construction Products Regulation (CPR), which in the Netherlands led to temporary bottlenecks of cables with no

CE marking or Declaration of Performances. “Some big players simply no longer had these cables in stock. Redlink was very helpful in delivering to us and ensured that any cable problems were sorted quickly,” explained Edwin van den Bogaard, the MIT project manager in charge..

34 kilometres of cable, 580 connections and eight months later the job was finished and the new Datwyler communications network was handed over to the Municipality of Hilversum – together with the manufacturer’s 25-year system warranty. “We received the system warranty in January 2018. Since then the installation has been operating smoothly. The customer is very happy with this aspect of the new data network,” reports Bogaard.

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