

Skanska: Battersea Power Station Phase 1

Challenge:

Skanska needed a proven technology partner to develop and deploy the network. Core requirements were:

- Significant bandwidth for homes, shops and offices.
- A stable and resilient network that occupants can trust.
- Flexibility to cater for future growth in usage.

Like all complex construction projects, Phase 1 had aggressive critical dates and tight financial boundaries.

Supporting London's new urban village with a highly-intelligent 10G network infrastructure – delivered on-time and within budget.

Battersea Power Station is without doubt one of London's iconic landmarks. Aside from providing power to the city for years, it's been a versatile music and film canvas (any Pink Floyd Animals fans out there, or lovers of Batman?). And now it's taken on a brand-new role: one of the most exciting neighbourhoods in the world! With 864 apartments, shops, offices, and restaurants – Phase 1 provides London with a hotly anticipated urban village.

In 2014, Skanska, one of the UK's leading contractors, was awarded the £88.6m contract to deliver the mechanical and electrical shell, core and fit-out works. A critical element of Phase 1 was a high-performing common network solution.

This was an important project for our engineering team. We needed to work with a network partner we can trust, and one who understands the Skanska model. Off the back of the impressive IT infrastructure delivered at Twickenham Stadium, Ideal was the obvious choice.

Stuart Bailey
Senior Technical Manager, Skanska



Ideal Solution:

The construction team at Ideal put together a bid that not only complied with spec but offered an alternative solution to the 1G network requirement. Commented Mike Henson, MD at Ideal: “Thinking ahead to what the new urban development may need in the future, we offered a 10G network within the same budget. This gives the developer confidence that advanced services can be added in time, but also caters for peaks in demand, such as extreme levels of remote working for all home occupants.”

Outside of the original spec, Ideal also ran a security-focused workshop to assess potential gaps in the network. The result was a series of recommendations to proactively identify potential threats. The high-performance IT solution, designed and deployed by the Ideal team included:

- A highly-intelligent 10G network infrastructure to support building management systems (BMS) including lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, CCTV, door access control – and even intelligent water fountains!
- A Wi-Fi for residents, workers and the public, extending as far the waterfront jetty for private events
- Robust security including advanced user authentication and monitoring.

Most building sites like Phase 1 are remarkably busy environments with multiple contractors each carrying out their own deliverables, all needing to skilfully work around each other. Ideal’s highly structured process of staging solutions off-site helped Skanska overcome this. “It’s really important we limit the number of workers on-site,” said Bailey. “By building equipment at Ideal’s headquarters, we could test away from the pressurised live environment and keep our site as safe as possible.”

About Skanska:

Skanska, established in 1887, is one of the world’s leading project development and construction groups. Operating around the world in selected markets in Europe and the US, Skanska is listed on the Stockholm stock exchange and headquartered in Sweden’s capital city.

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Result:

In 2016, Ideal delivered on-time and within budget a resilient, high-performance network solution that underpins core BMS.

“I’ve been highly impressed with the whole Ideal team and their value-engineering approach,” added Bailey, “They came on board quickly and right from bid stage it was obvious they had the relevant construction network experience. They really understood the pressure facing contractors and showed support right from tender to practical completion. They have a strong ability to execute and manage complicated projects and have been a trusted technology partner in the success of Phase 1.”

Following a successful deployment, Ideal won the contract for a fully managed service and now supports the network 24/7 from its Customer Service Centre in Brighton. Multi-disciplined engineers are on-hand to directly provide a rapid response and proactive support with ITIL-aligned processes.

Project name:

Battersea Power Station Phase 1
(Circus West Village)

Project location:

Battersea Power Station, London

Building Type: Power Station

Main Contractor: Carillion

M&E Contractor: Skanska

Network Partner: Ideal



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About Ideal:

Ideal is a UK-based managed service provider to the construction industry. We architect, commission and support high-performance, resilient, complex network infrastructures for many contractors including Skanska, Mace and TClarke. Partnering with industry-leading technology vendors such as Cisco we build high-availability, robust and flexible networks for buildings such as Twickenham Stadium, Westfield Shopping Centre, Battersea Power Station and 22 Bishopsgate.

www.ideal.co.uk/construction-services