



## **Cork Airport – First Irish Airport To Invest in State of the Art Cabling Network**

€2 Million invested in network to carry all Voice and Data Systems

Kedington assists with the design and installation of Structured Cabling network

Cork Airport has become the first airport in Ireland to install a fully optimised structured cabling infrastructure to underpin all airport systems; from flight information systems to CCTV networks. The project, which cost €170million overall, included €2million in cabling infrastructure, will ensure the airport has the capacity to expand over the next 20 years without altering the underlying framework.

Brendan Mullins, design Co-ordinator, Cork Airport Project likens the cabling infrastructure to building foundations. "Airport systems are notoriously complex, are constantly changing and are in themselves unique in the commercial world. The major investment in Cork Airport, and in particular the specialist airport systems, needed to be matched by a similar investment in a structured cabling system. Once you get the foundations right, then development and growth in the coming years is greatly simplified," he says.

According to Brendan Mullins, "Kedington proved themselves again to be a most professional and innovative partner in this process, while the Systimax cabling employed is hard to beat for sheer technical strength."

Cork Airport, which is managed by the DAA, pulled together a design team from the three airports to ensure that the project was managed in the most effective manner. As Matt Porter, managing director of Kedington points out: "The Design Team was made up of people who had direct experience of managing airport systems as well as handling upgrades. This level of expertise was invaluable to us and together with the overall engineers, Jacobs Engineering, we were able to fine tune the design and deliver a unique bespoke solution to Cork Airport."

The Cork Airport Project was put out to full tender with Rocon winning the contract. From the very beginning, the cabling solution was identified as a critical component because it was recognised that it would be required to support all of the airport's critical IT and operational systems. Systems including flight information, computer networks, operational systems, telephony networks, CCTV, access control and security systems are all integrated across, and supported by, the structured cabling.

Brendan Mullins found the process of designing the cabling infrastructure relatively straightforward: "Kedington's role was vital: their knowledge of structured cabling is second to none. Their on-site installation teams are technically very competent. They were excellent at anticipating problems and then refining solutions and at the end of the day produced an efficient and user friendly solution."

Brendan Mullins was also complimentary about Kedington's ability to accommodate last minute changes: "They were able to switch, move and tweak solutions and typically came up with a neater way of doing things. Their solutions never felt like a compromise as much as a fine tuning."

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With the dedication to implement the best in cabling, comes the assurance that the airport will not have to re-evaluate its infrastructure for some 20 years. In addition, Kedington has built in significant resilience, ensuring that the networks have multiple routes in case of fall over or disaster.

Matt Porter adds: "Airports are also fast changing places with dynamic needs. Staff are on the move all the time and need to be able to plug and play their applications wherever they are based. We have designed a solution that allows that freedom without incurring extra cost, difficulty or impediments. Right now the applications are only using one tenth of the capacity of the cabling system, allowing for painless growth. And when the airport does need to increase its capacity, it can be done seamlessly, without interruption to the other systems relying on it.

"History tells us of the need for ever increasing bandwidth and our clients are already deploying very fast networks. Kedington, as Ireland's number one IT network builder for 20 years, has constantly delivered the fastest networks available, while having the ability to deliver fine tuned bespoke solutions like no other company in Ireland," he adds.

### **About Kedington**

Kedington was founded in 1989 and was purchased by Denis O'Brien's Esat in 1999. In March 2003 an MBO, lead by Matt Porter and Colm Lyons was concluded taking the company back into private ownership. Matt and Colm managed to secure the entire Republic of Ireland operation, with offices in Dublin, Cork and Limerick, and kept the original management team together. Its customers have enjoyed a seamless change-over and continue to benefit from a huge wealth of expertise that still resides within the group.

**For more information, please visit [www.kedington.ie](http://www.kedington.ie)**

Willie O'Connell	Kedington	087 266 9697
Jillian Godsil	PRG	053 94 29676