

Case Study: Owen Williams

Owen Williams

Owen Williams Group was acquired by Amey in 2006. Amey is one of today's leading support services providers, managing the vital infrastructure and business services that practically everyone, everywhere relies on.

With a presence throughout the UK and Ireland, Owen Williams brings leading edge design services to Amey's management and maintenance contracts with the Highways Agency, Scottish Executive and Bedfordshire County Council. Owen Williams works in partnership with the Northern Ireland Roads Service, Herefordshire, West Sussex and Surrey Councils, supporting them in the delivery of highways, property and regeneration programmes.

As a product independent integrator of technology systems Owen Williams is helping to make journeys on road and rail networks easier for the travelling public by providing real time information, security and asset condition data to those who need it.



Network communications applications support team (NCAST)

The challenge

The Highways Agency maintains, operates and improves the network of trunk roads and motorways in England. At any one time several telematics related projects can be in progress. These projects rely on making the best use of the existing network through the use of technology. The success or failure of these projects depends on the organizational and technical expertise of key individuals and skills being applied at the correct point in the project. Moreover, the need to successfully co-ordinate activities within and across projects has a major safety impact on road users and on the reliability of the network.

The solution

In order to support these various projects and initiatives it is necessary to have available a team with the necessary skills and expertise.

Owen Williams is one of the UK's most experienced suppliers of professional consultancy services for highway design and maintenance management and currently works with a number of UK local authorities, many civil engineering contractors and the Highways Agency. Owen Williams and IPL submitted the winning bid for NCAST and were duly awarded a 3 to 5 year contract by the Highways Agency.

IPL supports the Owen Williams NCAST team by offering:

- Detailed knowledge of the systems, motorway communications design, networks, site data design and administration and the latest developments such as Active Traffic Management (ATM) and Regional Control Centres (RCCs)

- Continuous involvement with Highways Agency specifications, new procedures and Change Control Boards
- The ability to undertake workshops to develop ideas and implement improvements and participate in Working Parties, User Groups and Discussion Forums
- Extensive experience in performing acceptance testing, commissioning and design reviews, testing and software audits
- On-going involvement with the TechMAC, e-Mac and ATM teams and liaising with Design, Build, Finance and Operate (DBFO) and National Roads Telecommunication Services (NRTS) organisations.

The highlights

IPL has in-depth knowledge of network communications and an excellent appreciation of the telematics applications, systems software and data configurations.

Together with Owen Williams, IPL adopts a policy of continuous improvement and proactive assistance to the Highways Agency and stakeholders. This is of particular relevance when co-ordination across several organizations and disciplines is paramount.

Dennis Hill, Owen Williams' Divisional Director said:

"I am delighted to announce that, with IPL as our partner, we have successfully retained the NCAST commission with the Highways Agency in Bristol. This success anchors our aspirations for our fast growing telematics business."

About IPL

Founded in 1979, IPL has a long history of successfully delivering excellent value consultancy and end-to-end solutions to both the public and private sectors.

IPL's consultancy is renowned for its quality and value. Our consultants are talented and independent-minded individuals with extensive industry experience. We consistently exceed our clients' expectations through a combination of imaginative thinking, managerial and technical expertise and many years of systems engineering experience.

IPL's track record in end-to-end solutions development is exceptional. Our proven development methodology allows us to cut through technical complexity, manage risk and completely focus on delivery. We consistently deliver reliable, efficient and accurate systems to a precise schedule.

IPL is an ISO9001:2000/TickIT registered company having a permanent workforce of 245, revenues of ca. £22M p.a. and 40,000 sq ft of secure office space in central Bath.



Contact Information

IPL Information Processing Limited
Eveleigh House
Grove Street
Bath
BA1 5LR

Tel: +44 (0) 1225 475000
Email: transport@ipl.com

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