

NORWOOD AQUARIUM



The Project

Norwood Aquarium, wholesale distributors of aquarium & water garden equipment, needed to replace their IBM i server, migrate the data from their existing system and implement a new DR (Disaster Recovery) solution.

The Requirements

The project included:

- Installation of a new IBM i (v7.4) server.
- Migration of the existing system to the new system.
- Implementation of a new DR solution.

Including the following ongoing services:

- To maintain and back-up the back-up server (to be held in the KFA Connect datacentre).
- 12 months 24/7 hardware maintenance.
- 12 months IBM software maintenance



The Challenge

The requirements were clearly communicated, so there were no unknowns for this project.

The KFA Solution

The existing IBM i solution had been in situ for a number of years and Norwood Aquarium had found it to be reliable and fast. The Norwood team were comfortable with it – so were keen to replace it like-for-like with a modern version of the same product.

There were housekeeping/clean-up tasks to complete before the data was migrated to the new system.

KFA Connect procured the server, migrated the data from the old server and installed it for Norwood, ensuring every scenario had been considered.

The new DR solution which replaced Norwood's method of backing up to tapes and removing from premises overnight, now includes program & database back-ups which are held in the KFA Connect datacentre (pushing data from IBM using FTP) and maintaining and backing-up that server.



The Outcome

The transition to the new server was scheduled to happen overnight, ensuring minimal disruption to the day-to-day running of the business.

The project was a success, delivered on time and to budget.

This initial project for Norwood was a crucial step to prepare for an eCommerce project (which is already underway) for a new Magento 2 eCommerce site, which will be integrated back into their new IBM i system.

The aim of the new Magento website is to give Norwood's trade customers an enhanced user experience when ordering, offering functionality that was not in place in their current solution.

The server replacement was a crucial first-step ahead of the commencement of the eCommerce project.



The Future

The KFA team are now working on a new project for Norwood Aquarium including:

Development, Implementation & Integration of a new Magento (2.4) eCommerce B2B website

to include hosting, ongoing support and bespoke functionality which allows Norwood Customers to:

- View **stock availability** (traffic light style) - with data pulling from the IBM i.
- View the **products** specifically available to them with their **price list**.
- **Place orders** directly on the site.
- View and select relevant **upsell items** during the checkout process.
- **View, download or print** their customer specific pricelist.
- View **discounts** available specifically to them.
- View **invoices** (generated by the IBM i) from within Magento as a PDF document.



Integration

In addition to the Magento development the project will also include the following integrations:

- Integrating their IBM i system with the Magento site to include product & category extract, stock levels, order details.
- Orders placed will be allocated to the relevant **delivery day & route** to that customer.
- Pick notes will be able to be printed from Magento with the information relating to the delivery day and route number (this data will originate on the IBM i)



“KFA Connect upgraded our IBM i Series server”.

“Constant updates throughout the project and their customer service is second to none”.

“They ensure the system worked fully before transitioning between servers and were there to provide help at any stage in the project”.

“From first enquiry to final delivery of the project I cannot fault them at all.”

Sam Street, Sales Manager – Norwood Aquarium