

NUTLAND CARPET ACCESSORIES



The Project

Nutland Carpet Accessories is an independent family run business, distributing commercial flooring, carpets, vinyl and flooring accessories to the flooring trade. They needed to replace their IBM i (running IBM i 5.4) and made the decision to move to a cloud hosted IBM Power System running IBM i 7.4.

The Requirements

The project included:

- Installation of a new cloud hosted IBM i Power System (v7.4).
- Migration of the existing system to the new system.
- Implementation of a new back-up solution.

Including the following ongoing services:

- Daily Back ups.
- 12 months IBM software maintenance.



The Challenge

Nutland Carpets had printers connected directly to their on premise AS/400.

These printers were Old line printers and needed new hardware installed and configured to enable them to work with a system hosted in the cloud.

The KFA Solution

The bespoke IBM i solution had been in situ for a number of years and the Nutland team had always found it to be reliable and fast.

Having made the decision in 2019 to move the entire operation to SAP Business One, the project to implement the new ERP solution had already begun when the Covid-19 pandemic arrived.

This paused the project giving time for reflection on this decision, and their concerns that the solution may not deliver the functionality and flexibility they had come to rely on with their IBM i solution.



After the Covid lockdown eased the SAP Business One project was scrapped in favour of replacing the IBM i system with a more modern version. The existing system would be replaced with the IBM i cloud offering.

The new backup solution which replaced the existing method of backing up to tapes and removing them from the premises overnight, now includes program & database back-ups which are held in a KFA Connect datacentre.

The Outcome

The transition to the new server was seamless, ensuring zero disruption to the day-to-day running of the business.

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



“We have been a customer of KFA Connect for over 20 years.

In that time, they have always been an exceptional IT partner, fully understanding our needs and never letting us down. They originally provided us with a bespoke IBM based system, handling all our Accounting, Stock Control and Invoicing on one platform. They have since been on hand whenever we've needed their help.

KFA Connect have recently moved the entire platform from a physical box onsite, to a cloud-based solution which is working out for us very well indeed.

I would highly recommend KFA Connect to anyone out there looking for the best (and friendliest) IT partner.”

James Smith – Director, Nutland Carpet Accessories



The Future

The KFA team are currently working on new project(s) for Nutland Carpets including:

- Converting spooled files to PDF, development including new layouts for documentation (including making them available in full colour) and to allow invoices to be generated as PDF's and printed on a laser printer.
- The procurement and installation of new Intelligent Printer Data Stream (IPDS) printers.
- The development of a new dashboard, allowing users to print despatch notes, collection notes & invoices from one convenient location.
- The ability to export reports to Excel (.CSV) and distribute to users by email instead of printing.
- The ability to email invoices as an alternative to printing.