

Why Rent IT?

You are all aware that Seatronics Ltd has for many years now been a leading supplier of high tech systems to the offshore hydrographic and scientific industries. Perhaps we are best known for our range of acoustic systems or ROV related hardware. You will also be aware that computer systems have become more & more central to many of today's operations and in turn this has become an important area to Seatronics.

Did You Know?

- Seatronics has been designing and building a range of PC systems for over 6 years?
- Seatronics has a dedicated workshop and IT staff specifically for this area of the business?
- Seatronics provides IT hardware to many offshore companies such as Subsea 7, Fugro, Thales etc.
- Seatronics successfully completed transition to **BSEN ISO 9001:2000** in February this year. (This includes assembly of computer systems.)
- But most importantly of all, were you aware that Seatronics now has a division dedicated to servicing this area of our business?



- We welcome you to **Rent IT!** -

Why have a separate division? Well not only have we established our own name, but we have also expanded our customer base to include onshore IT applications as well. Since late 2002 **Rent IT** has been securing work in many onshore areas. These range from private individuals to major corporations, a single laptop or a complete office suite, standard or custom products and a range of peripherals including storage systems, UPS systems, projectors and more.

The rest of this newsletter is dedicated to giving you an insight into **Rent IT**, the range of products available and the diversity of customers we support. Should you have any questions do not hesitate to call us.

Rent IT "Custom solutions" - VisualSoft Ltd



In early 2003 we were approached by local Aberdeen company VisualSoft Ltd to supply a suite of high spec PC's and associated peripherals. VisualSoft are involved in the design and supply of video and data gathering systems for use in the offshore market. Their product is typically used in offshore pipeline surveys where data from 3 cameras and a range of sensors is digitised and stored on a single data base.



Hardware criteria included:-

- High speed for real time video digitising
- On line high capacity, high speed, data storage with 100% back up
- High speed transfer of data between machines
- Minimum physical size for use in offshore control cabin
- Maximum reliability under typical offshore conditions.

Whilst some "off the shelf" hardware may have met this criteria it was felt that a "custom" solution would give a superior all round package. Based on our existing knowledge of this environment **Rent IT** developed a solution for VisualSoft consisting of:-

- 4 x Dual Zeon 2.8GHz PCs' with SCSI hard drives in 1U high rack mounts.
- 1 x on line archiving system, Dual Zeon 2.8GHz with 1Tb internal SCSI hard drive
- 1 x Offline archive machine, Dual Zeon 2.8GHz

All PC's were linked via a 1GB Switch/Hub and dual SDLT tape drive were provided for additional storage.

Installed in August 2003 the complete system was still operating offshore, fault free, at the end of the contract in December 2003. (Since completing this job, VisualSoft have used these systems on a number of other occasions for a variety of clients)

**This is typical of the unique solutions
Rent IT can develop for your project.**

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Flying the Flag!

Whilst much of our work is done well away from the public eye, when you do want to be seen, an exhibition is the place to do it. For **Rent IT**, making an impression was particularly important during 2003 as we established our place in the market.



Offshore Europe 2003 - Entrance

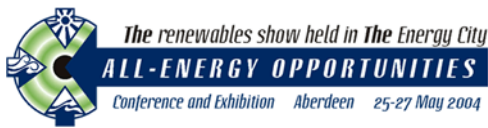
It was therefore quite a surprise when, on our first attempt, we secured the contract from Spearhead Ltd, organisers of the Offshore Europe Oil Exhibition in Aberdeen, to supply all their PC and IT requirements. Whilst a major coup for us, there is nothing quite like jumping in at the deep end, no minor small scale event for us to cut our teeth on, oh no, right in with the biggest oil exhibition in Europe!

There was no question of turning down an opportunity like this and the associated high profile publicity it would receive. Having secured the contract only a few short weeks before the exhibition kicked off it was panic time in the IT department and all hands on deck, with engineers being drafted in from other areas of the company to assist.

Well that's all behind us now, with 60+ machines (not counting exhibitors equipment) all mobilised, installed and then removed, within this brief period we can vote our first major exhibition as a success. Proven further, when within a few weeks of Offshore Europe, Spearhead contacted us with a second request for us to provide the same service this time for the Oceanology exhibition in London this March, so see us there at **Stand 240**.



Hamish Forbes with Nik Rudge of Spearhead



(Word must be spreading! - whilst completing this newsletter we have just been approached to support the All Energy Exhibition in Aberdeen this May, I guess the **Rent IT** flag will be flying there as well!)

*Come and see us exhibiting alongside Seatronics on **Stand 240***

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Too many GB? - Get your storage options sorted!



The requirements for digital data storage has increased dramatically over the last decade. To meet these demands, new technologies have been developed and improved to fulfil the volume and storage speeds required.

Storage options are summarised below but for a full technical appraisal of these please read the complete article at:-

<http://www.rentit.biz/storage.htm>

Rent IT can supply a wide range of these products on both short and long term rental. Our IT staff are also happy to discuss you requirements if you are not sure which option you need taking into account:-

Compatibility, Storage volume, Media costs, Performance (Security, speed etc) **We look forward to assisting you.**

The following table summarises these technologies and relative costs:

Media	Storage	Media Cost	Cost per GB	Speed	Drive cost
Floppy Disc	1.44MB	£0.20	£139	500 Kbits /Sec	£5
Zip 250MB	250MB	£11	£44	2.4 MB/Sec	£76
CD R	700MB	£0.25	£0.36	7MB/Sec	£30
DVD+R	4.7GB	£1	£0.21	5.5MB/Sec	£60
DVD Ram	9.4GB	£9	£0.96	4.1MB/Sec	£280
DLT 40/80	40GB	£23	£0.58	6MB/Sec	£1800
SDLT 160/320	160GB	£46	£0.29	16MB/Sec	£3200
LTO 2	200GB	£58	£0.29	30MB/Sec	£3300
External HDD	500GB	NONE	£0.72	55MB/Sec	£360
NAS	4TB	NONE	£2.50	300Mb/Sec	£10,000