

# Zircon successfully delivers peace of mind to the Highways Agency in partnership with WSP

Zircon recently helped WSP Intelligent Transport Systems to develop a Video Information Highway Certification Package (VIH CP) that will be used by the Highways Agency to ensure that new Video Clients and Television Base Stations comply with the agency's VIH specifications.

## Background

Our client, WSP Intelligent Transport Systems, play a pivotal role in the development of innovative and technology based solutions for a variety of transport systems and networks.

In this capacity they were asked to help the Highways Agency cope with an increase in demand from commercial and public organisations for access to the Agency's CCTV images.

WSP were tasked with developing a supplier independent certified test system to ensure that all new Video Clients and Television Base Stations fully complied with the Highways Authority's CCTV VIH specifications. What's more, the new system had to be designed in such a way that it would not adversely affect the existing CCTV network or compromise its integrity in any way.

## Solution

WSP decided to call upon Zircon's expertise to help them complete this project. David Weston, Project Manager at WSP explains that "We'd used Zircon before on the original certification system, and that went well, so it was suggested that we contact them again for this. We just decided they were right for this...there was no tendering process."

The project, which ran from November 2009 to July 2010, went very smoothly from start to finish, without any major challenges. "The project was well managed and deliverables were on time and to a high standard" commented David Weston.

## Teamwork

"We worked together very closely, in effect as one team, and that was a big factor in creating such a good solution" David adds. "We were able to combine our skills very effectively."

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He was also particularly pleased by the fact that "[Zircon] were happy to send us code at regular intervals so we could do testing as it was being developed - it worked well in that respect. Some contractors want to be very protective of the code and will only release it all at the end. Zircon was very open to this collaborative style of working."

David has no hesitation when asked whether he would use Zircon again. "Yes, I would recommend them, if it was a software related project." He adds that "Obviously unexpected things happen along the way, and you have to take things in your stride. The guys at Zircon were very good in this regard. I found them quite flexible - if anything needed to change from the original requirements, they were very good at taking this on board. Other companies are often not so accommodating. They will insist on reviewing the costs whenever there's minor change."

## Conclusion

The package has been successfully delivered and is performing as required. It is now providing Video Clients and Television Base Station developers with a controlled and closed environment in which to test the functionality and interfaces of their device without any danger of interfering with the live operational systems.

The last word from David Weston was that "Everything, design, development, testing and deployment, went as I expected it to, and as I had hoped. You can't say fairer than that."