



## Photolink Creative Group Relies on Fortinet for Security and Business Agility

### Introduction

Photolink Creative Group, based in Manchester, is a retail communications specialist providing brand direction, creative content, fashion photography, and shoot production resources to the UK's biggest and best-known retail brands. Technology is a key aid to the creative process and stimulates innovation across the communications value chain. As such, the photographic, creative, video, digital, and production teams at Photolink need high-performance, reliable IT services to match the high level of quality content that makes a significant difference to their customer's business.

Flexsys, one of the foremost providers of managed IT services in Manchester, has worked closely with Photolink to become the trusted provider for their IT applications and infrastructure. The applications, servers, and storage have been migrated into a datacentre, providing Photolink with the freedom to securely access information and applications from any location with an Internet connection. With the provision of outsourced IT services and a cloud-based model, Photolink gained the flexibility, expertise, and resources to maximise the value of their ICT requirements.

### Details

**Customer Name:** Photolink Creative Group  
**Industry:** Retail  
**Location:** Manchester, UK

### Challenges

- To secure and maintain high performance connection to the data centre in order to maximise user interaction and productivity
- To protect access to information and applications from any locations

### Objectives

- Implement a high performance and low latency solution to support uninterrupted access to applications without compromising security and business agility

### Deployment

- FortiGate-300C

## The Challenge

With the high volumes of media-rich data being handled by Photolink on a daily basis, the network had to incorporate a reliable, high-performance connection to the datacentre in order to maximise user interaction and productivity. To maintain high throughput and reliability, it was essential to have a network security solution that did not create any performance bottlenecks as traffic was inspected and filtered for threats and malware. The data throughput required by Photolink was placing enormous pressure on the existing security infrastructure, so Flexsys conducted a thorough network audit to review the situation and implement a new solution to meet Photolink's current and future traffic requirements. The objective was to provide a high-performance and low-latency solution to support uninterrupted access to applications without compromising security and business agility. To achieve this, Flexsys tested solutions from a number of leading security vendors, resulting in Fortinet being identified as the preferred choice, based on its unmatched performance and best price.

## The Solution

Two FortiGate-300C appliances were installed, one in the Flexsys datacentre and one in Photolink's office, which were connected via a high-speed, 1 Gigabit dedicated Internet connection. The FortiGate-300C security appliance delivers consolidated security with extremely high throughput and exceptionally low latency. Fortinet's purpose-built hardware and software provide industry-leading performance for the most demanding networking environments. Specifically, the FortiASIC processors provide the performance needed to block emerging threats, meet rigorous third-party certification, and ensure that network security solution does not become a network bottleneck for user interactions.

The highly versatile FortiGate-300C features one of the highest port densities and price/performance ratios of any product in its class. The appliance provides up to 8 Gbps firewall throughput and up to ten 1 Gigabit Ethernet interfaces providing the scalability to meet future bandwidth growth.

To maintain a high security posture for Photolink, Flexsys provides comprehensive network security management, which involves policy-based provisioning, update management, and end-to-end network monitoring.

## The Benefits

The fully outsourced service from Flexsys enables Photolink to keep up to date with changing technologies and the exciting opportunities those new technologies present. With mission-critical application, backup services, and redundancy within the cloud, Flexsys provides Photolink with a flexible way to manage IT costs and scale its IT needs.

With the addition of a new comprehensive in-depth defence system from Fortinet, Flexsys helps Photolink reduce the risks to the business from the increasing sophistication of IT security threats. The combination of world-class network security and central management service allows Flexsys to provide Photolink with robust security for IT resources in the cloud and their on-premise network.

Fortinet's team of threat researchers continuously monitors the evolving threat landscape, allowing Photolink to benefit from rapid product updates to ensure ongoing protection from new and emerging threats.

At last, Fortinet's purpose-built hardware and software provide industry-leading performance for the high demands of a media-rich creative environment at Photolink. The platform delivers the power needed to detect malicious content at Gigabit connection speeds without compromising network throughput and performance.

Photolink now enjoys reliable access to data with increased processing power and business continuity from the cloud service, which in turn improves their competitiveness through increased productivity and enhanced client service levels.



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