

Colt Opts for SYNO Dome Closure

A new fiber optic network was required. And it had to be set up quickly to last long term. The British IT and telecommunications service provider Colt needed an immediate solution for a site in Switzerland. The challenge was quickly mastered with the new SYNO gel dome closure from R&M.

Colt Group S.A. maintains data and communication networks for sophisticated services in 28 countries and 205 agglomerations. The company focuses in particular on its own metro networks, which are based on fiber optics, and also buys itself into other specific networks over interconnection points. This means Colt can perfectly satisfy its customers' requirements from the long distance and metro area down to the last mile.

But a third-party supplier surprisingly terminated a several-kilometer-long rented route at a site in Switzerland. Colt needed a solution at very short notice, and one which would last long term so the company could be sure it would be able to supply its customers in the future. The aim was to have an alternative cabling solution fulfilling exclusive performance requirements that could be combined with existing infrastructures.

Easy to handle

Colt contacted R&M and together the two companies quickly found a qualitatively compelling solution. It was to be the first use of the SYNO gel dome closure R&M had launched in 2016. It took just a few days to set up the alternative FO network using the SYNO dome closure. The installers' work was straightforward thanks to the logical construction of the closure. And there was no need for extra training.

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Stéphane Gottraux, Manager Service Delivery and Customer Experience, Colt

The modular system of the SYNO dome closure eliminates the laborious task of threading the fiber optic cable through the bottom of the closure. This meant the technicians could work much faster than would normally have been the case. Colt wanted a flexible platform to cover any subsequent installation work. The SYNO dome closure from R&M fulfills precisely this requirement. It can be assembled differently at any time.

Stéphane Gottraux, Manager of Service Delivery and Customer Experience at Colt: «I still find the Swissness of R&M solutions compelling. Products from R&M satisfy customers' needs better than those of the competition.» Here he defines Swissness as familiar Swiss precision, reliability and being able to deploy user-friendly technology. The customer sees the investment in the new closures as an investment in the future and will commission R&M when it comes to further system components.

Stéphane Gottraux was also impressed by R&M's support and flexibility: «I can contact my customer adviser at any time and he is always willing to listen to my concerns and wishes. R&M always makes specific customizations possible.»

Colt and R&M have been collaborating successfully for years now. The customer already opted for R&M's Optical Distribution Frame (ODF) in 2012 (see the article in CONNECTIONS no. 43). The ODF precisely covers the requirements of the IT and telecommunications service provider which is why it is used in several countries. Quality, space-saving construction, simple assembly and extremely convenient installation immediately impressed Colt.

Sophisticated infrastructure

Colt offers companies in Europe, Asia and North America high-bandwidth customized network services. With its own intelligent network, the Colt IQ Network (<http://www.colt.net/our-network/>) which is completely integrated in the cloud, Colt supports companies in their digital transformation. Worldwide, more than 700 data centers as well as more than 24 500 buildings are directly connected to the Colt IQ Network, with numbers rising all the time. Colt is an innovation leader when it comes to Software-Defined Networking (SDN) and Network Functions Virtualization (NFV).

Customers are very much Colt's top priority. The company focuses on local solutions and local support for companies active globally. Its customers are companies from data-intensive sectors in more than 200 cities in around 30 countries.

Modular and flexible

The SYNO dome closure boasts optimum flexibility. The eight radially arranged, modular cable entry bays support all desired configurations and mixed assemblies of cables and micro ducts. Network operators have more freedom to tailor their plans and change them at short notice because conversions are always possible. The cable entry kits can be opened, closed, changed, and retrofitted in just a few simple steps.

The modular system for cable entries eliminates the laborious task of threading fiber optic cables through the bottom of the closure. The cables are inserted laterally. There is no longer any need for time-consuming sealing using shrink tubes. Instead, integrated blocks made from the company's own SYNO gel seal the splice closure. The cable bays and individual cables remain freely accessible, meaning that the splice closure can be modified or fitted with additional fiber optic cables even during network operations.

The SYNO gel technology developed by R&M is an innovation for mechanical cold sealing. When the cable entry is sealed, gel surrounds each cable, preventing dust and moisture from getting in. Fluctuating temperatures, mechanical loads, or water pressure cannot damage the dome-end splice closure in any way.

A further advantage is R&M's system approach. Inside you will find R&M's Single Circuit Management System with its scalable tray technology. The largest of the three splice closure models can hold up to 1152 fibers and splices. A bending radius of 40 mm is gentle on fibers and is guaranteed regardless of packing density.

Colt enjoys an excellent reputation in the market and has positioned itself as a technology leader. To ensure it lives up to its good reputation, the company is currently investing in a Next Generation Network. In

future, customers will only have to pay for the bandwidth they effectively need as the capacity usage of networks significantly depends on the daily business and thus demonstrates considerable differences.

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