

## Bolton Wanderers FC

“ We trust MLR Networks to go the extra mile...”

MLR Networks and Bolton Wanderers Football Club (BWFC) go way back; they've been working together for more than 10 years. The relationship started when MLR Networks began working with the Bolton Whites Hotel; part of the BWFC stadium and at the time, the hotel owned and operated by De Vere Group, a longstanding customer of MLR Networks.

Since then, MLR Networks has designed, installed and tested all of the copper data cabling throughout the BWFC stadium and surrounding facilities; the Lostock Training Academy and the Euxton training ground.

*“MLR Networks has installed network cabling at Bolton Wanderers for more than ten years. They are always easy to work with; they know our business so we know we are getting the advice and service that's best for us. Usually, work needs to be done quickly, and often in high-traffic public areas so we have to keep disruption to a minimum. We trust MLR Networks to go the extra mile, we know they will do a good job and they'll do it on time. It's why we continue to work with them.”*

**Dave Atkinson, IT & Digital Director, BWFC**



### CUSTOMER:

**Bolton Wanderers FC (BWFC)**

### OVERVIEW:

Bolton Wanderers Football Club (BWFC) is an English professional association football club based at the Macron Stadium in the North West. The club was founded in 1874, and BWFC currently play in the Championship, the second tier of English football. The Macron Stadium is a modern, all-seater stadium with a capacity of almost 29,000. The facilities on-site also include the Bolton Whites Hotel, formerly owned by the De Vere Group and the recently opened Bolton Wanderers Free School.

### SOLUTIONS:



- Cabling
- IP Surveillance
- Backbone Fibre Optic Network
- Wireless Network Infrastructure



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**Dave Atkinson, IT & Digital Director, BWFC**

#### IP SURVEILLANCE

Between 2011 and 2012, MLR Networks helped BWFC to migrate their old analogue CCTV system to a new IP surveillance system. To improve on-site safety and security, BWFC planned to install new internal and external IP cameras at the stadium, in the car park, the superstore, at their on-site educational facilities, Euxton training ground and Lostock Academy. MLR Networks installed Cat 5e, Cat 6 and OM3 fibre optic cabling and installed the cameras. As a result, BWFC now have a much improved surveillance system; much better imaging and more flexibility and control.

#### BACKBONE FIBRE OPTIC NETWORK

Over a ten year period, MLR Networks has installed a full fibre optic backbone across the entire BWFC site. Previously the stadium had a series of unlinked comms cabinets across the ground. Because the site covers a large area, MLR Networks designed and installed a fibre optic backbone which would support the linking of the cabinets around the site. Having a site-wide Local Area Network (LAN) gives BWFC greater network resiliency, and links all areas of the site including the Bolton Whites Hotel.

#### WIRELESS NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

Working with Acentic, MLR Networks designed and installed the infrastructure required to support the new public and guest wireless network at the Bolton Whites Hotel as well as the corporate and guest network in the non-public areas of the stadium for conferences and meetings. MLR Networks designed a mix of Cat 5e and fibre optic cabling to support the infrastructure and as a Cisco Premier Partner installed the Cisco access points.

#### TEMPORARY EVENT NETWORKS FOR SKY SPORTS

In 2013, BWFC hosted the Sky Darts Premier event run by Sky Sports. MLR Networks set up a temporary network infrastructure to support the event, including outside broadcast wagons, the production and support team and the commentary teams. MLR Networks removed all of the cabling once the event was completed.

#### BOLTON WANDERERS FREE SCHOOL (BWFS)

The BWFS opened in September 2014. MLR Networks terminated and tested all the data cabling at the site, helping to get the school open on time.

*"We've always had a great working relationship with BWFC, built up over many years. There are some exciting developments within the commercial space at the site, alongside new sporting and education facilities and we look forward to being involved with these plans,"*

**Matthew Cox, Account Manager MLR Networks**

#### WHO WE ARE

We are a network infrastructure specialist, with a range of market – leading Cisco solutions, copper and fibre optic data cabling and managed network services.

#### WHAT WE DO

We get to know your business and understand your needs, so we can recommend what's best for you. Our staff will work with your people to deliver the highest quality.

#### WHO WE DO IT FOR

Our customers come from all industries and sectors, from small single site operations to large multi-national corporations, both public and private sector.



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