



## Award winning manufacturer chooses Systems Assurance for Cloud Migration



Market-leading manufacturers of Industrial Wire Rope Suspension Systems, Seismic Bracing & Blast Protection, Viticulture, Orchards & Fencing, Ground Anchor Systems for Civil Construction

Gripple is an innovative, employee-owned manufacturer which continues to grow at 15% per annum, with offices in Sheffield, Chicago, Obernai and New Delhi. Their alchemy comprises state-of-the-art manufacturing, innovation, global reach, employee ownership and sustainability.

In 2014, they recruited over 40 new people in a range of disciplines including production operatives, IT, sales and marketing, Ideas and innovation, and engineering. They have exciting global growth plans and they will continue to look for additional people to support their growth.



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### Executive Summary

With multiple sites across the world, Gripple needed a cloud migration solution that had zero risk of downtime. Reaching over 4 time zones in 5 different countries, the challenge was offering a multi-lingual migration with no out of office time with which to do it.

Having employed over 40 new members of staff in the last few years across several countries, communication and dissemination of information would shortly become a problem but Systems Assurance and the Gripple IT team tackled this head on.

A new collaboration platform was created using SharePoint and Office 365. Microsoft Dynamics was used for the sales and internal staff and a global intranet, Extranet and warehouse display Screens we deployed to handle their global messaging.

#### Project Focus Points included:

- Multi-Lingual Platform
- Global Infrastructure using Cloud
- Zero Downtime
- Solid Platform to expand



## The Challenges

The Gripple IT team were concerned that with so many new employees spread across multiple time zones, the migration to any new platform would be painful. They wanted zero downtime and a multilingual platform simple enough to be used by everyone but comprehensive enough to grow with their needs. With 250+ people split over different sites, in different parts of the world, a flexible solution was needed.

## How Systems did it

This project required a supplier who could work closely with their team and co-ordinate with all departments across the business. Gripple had selected Systems for previous IT projects so were familiar with their knowledge, approach and value for money.

## The Results

Gripple now have a cloud based CRM system, Microsoft Dynamics, across the entire company in multiple countries and languages. Both their Office 365 and Dynamics deployment went according to plan with zero downtime.

Global Companywide collaboration is not possible from their Microsoft OneDrive for Business and Microsoft SharePoint platform. Using SharePoint, Systems have created an intranet, extranet and secure storage for their company files and media for their display screens.



Gripple head office warehouse and production facility in Sheffield, South Yorkshire

The Gripple information screens have a bespoke design in keeping with their brand identity and are tailored to the country they are in.

*"The Systems team had the right balance of technical ability and user experience knowledge - just what we needed"*

Andy Buckle  
Senior IT Co-Ordinator Gripple

