



Transaction Network Services

Brantano gets new company-wide network from TNS

- ***Card transaction times reduced to just over a second***

Brantano, the UK's largest out-of-town shoe specialist, has implemented a company-wide network with Transaction Network Services, Inc. (NYSE:TNS) to combine all payment and non-payment traffic over a single, secure connection. The new network, replacing an ISDN service which is being withdrawn by British Telecom (BT), enables Brantano to share management information securely and process card transactions at greatly increased speeds over the same network.

Following the cancellation of BT's ISDN D-Channel service, Brantano had just 12 weeks to find a replacement solution. Within two months, specialist transaction carrier TNS scoped, installed, tested and connected all 149 Brantano stores to its managed broadband service.

TNS provides Brantano with a fully-managed wide area network, connecting its geographically wide-spread stores to its Leicester-based head office. Each Brantano store is connected by an up to 8Mb broadband service into TNS' private network with its head office connected directly to TNS by leased line with a VPN back-up service.

The TNS managed broadband service offers a high bandwidth solution to simplify connectivity with the ability to run a number of applications over one connection, whilst reducing ongoing operational costs. Brantano uses TNS connectivity to transport everything from internal documents, emails, online customer orders, data polling and payment transactions, as well as to access the internet.

Kris De Moor, Int. IT Director at Brantano, comments, "We selected TNS due to their professionalism, technical knowledge and flexibility. The TNS team did a fantastic job in an extremely tight timescale and our store managers have commented positively on the solution. Card transactions now take on average 1.2 seconds to authorise,

which is great for both customer and staff satisfaction, and TNS' 24/7 network monitoring service gives us total peace of mind."

Mark Collins, managing director, TNS UK and Ireland, comments, "ADSL is an excellent replacement for ISDN and TNS' service is ideal for those retailers that have been affected by BT's withdrawal of its ISDN D-Channel product. Brantano can now benefit from a fast, always-on service for routing both its transactions and any non-payment data, whilst reducing the cost of line rental."

About Brantano UK Ltd

Brantano UK Ltd is the Group's British subsidiary. This company was set up following the takeover of Shoe City Ltd on 31 January 1998. As of 31 December 2006, it operated 147 shops in the United Kingdom under the Brantano name. The activities of the 13 franchise stores in the Middle East are also directed by Brantano UK Ltd.

About TNS

Transaction Network Services (TNS) is an international communications company that enables payments, money and voices to move around the world.

TNS' mission is to enable the world to transact. It does this through a broad range of networking, communications and value added services, which it provides to many of the world's leading retailers, banks/processors, telecommunications companies and financial markets.

Since its inception in 1990, TNS has designed and implemented multiple data networks, each designed specifically for the transport of transaction-oriented data. TNS' networks support a variety of widely accepted communications protocols and are designed to be scalable and accessible by multiple methods. Today, TNS has 32 offices across 29 countries with the ability to provide services in other countries.

For further information about TNS, please visit www.tnsi.com

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