

## Harnessing the very best next generation technologies to deliver secure connectivity, specifically tailored to your requirements

SMART-Connect is a superior way of providing connectivity to any site in the UK. SMART-Connect gives you peace of mind because your connection will be secure, sized to meet your specific usage, and will be built with resilience to ensure high availability.

- Automated load balancing for high availability.
- SLA - even for DSL based connections.
- Latest Next Generation Firewall for maximum security.
- Price performance optimised.
- Monitored 24/7.
- Fully Managed.
- Online portal access to monitor usage, billing and support cases.
- Flexibility to change with your changing requirements.

Using our strong relationships with the major carriers, such as BT, Cable & Wireless, Virgin and O2, we can select the best option for you depending on the geographic reach of each provider.

Automated load balancing or bonding allows us to integrate connections of any type from any provider to ensure maximum diversity.

And, by harnessing the technologies of the Tier 1 carriers we can take advantage of all existing and future technologies such as Ethernet, leased lines, DSL, SDSL, EFM, FTTC and wireless. The diverse routes will terminate to different POP's in the Link-Connect core MPLS network and the traffic will be managed either to another node on your wide area network or out to the Internet.

“ At Link-Connect we spend time finding out about how your business operates so that we can recommend the best tools to enable your entire workforce to communicate more effectively.

Graham McLean, Managing Director at Link-Connect ”



*Excellent relationships with our industry partners allows us to select the best and most cost competitive technology to meet your needs.*

### Total confidence

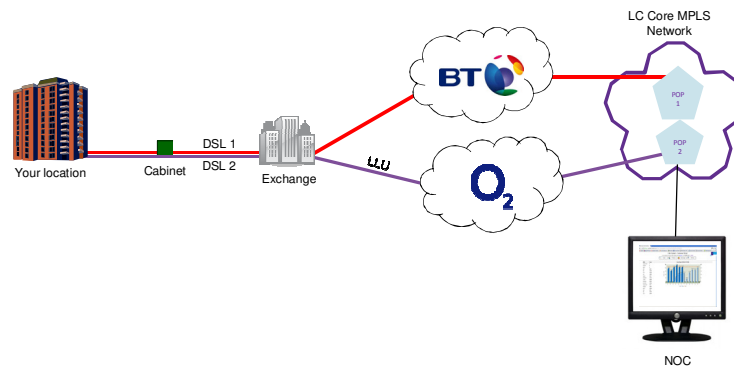
We are so confident in our fully managed services, provided through major UK data centres with 24/7 surveillance, we have backed them with an industry leading 99.9% Money Back SLA.

### Always on connectivity

With primary and secondary connections configured so that both are used all the time for day-to-day business activity, you can maximise your return on investment

### Resiliency and high availability

Building resilience into all aspects of the infrastructure design, combined with 24/7 monitoring and pro-active support, avoids costly outages.



*SMART-Connect*

It is fair to say that most companies are dependent on IT to effectively and efficiently meet their business objectives. With the drive for centralised IT systems, that must cater for the demands of a distributed and mobile workforce, the pressure to ensure high availability is huge. Ask any IT professional and they will tell you that it is not necessarily in their control to make every single piece of complex equipment reliable, unfortunately physical things do fail from time to time.

The best way to avoid costly outages is to build resilience into all aspects of the infrastructure design and to have 24/7 monitoring and pro-active support. This ensures that when there is a problem it can be resolved quickly.

### **Resilience and 24/7 management**

All Link-Connect supplied infrastructures have resilience built in and use all of the infrastructure for day to day operations to ensure you are getting good returns on your investment.

- We will always look for multiple links across different routes to our core network.
- We configure multi links, active-active and automatically balance the traffic across all links.
- We have a gigabit ring with built in diverse routing and MPLS to manage the traffic in the core network.
- Dual Firewalls can be clustered to share the load and be mutual backup in the event of an equipment failure.
- We host in a VM environment for resilience.
- All data is stored in a SAN which gives high performance and great resilience.

- The SAN is backed up off site to ensure a quick rebuild in the event of a major catastrophe.
- All aspects of your infrastructure are monitored and managed buy our multi-disciplined technical team.
- The knowledge of your infrastructure is shared across Link-Connect so you are never dependent on one individual, which can be the case with in-house managed infrastructure.

Our network designers work with you to determine the optimum mix of circuits required to support your needs. StoneGate routers balance the traffic across multiple links, which can be of different bandwidths and from multiple providers. In addition to load balancing, the StoneGate will automatically switch over to the live link in the event of an outage, and once this has been rectified the load will be automatically rebalanced.

By using both connections every day the risk of the 'spare' back-up link not working on the day it is most needed is removed. And, with no connection sitting idle, you can make use of all the bandwidth available to you.

Link-Connect is a leader in network connectivity, high speed Internet access, managed firewalls, secure wide area networks and managed VPN solutions. Over 4,000 organisations, from SMEs to major corporations, rely on us to deliver innovative solutions with business grade reliability & support.

Our fully managed service, delivered through major UK data centres with 24/7 surveillance, means we can back our offering with an industry leading 99.9% money back Service Level Agreement.