

Trinity Mirror Case Study - Test Management

Trinity Mirror Group recently installed a new advertising system at the Birmingham Post & Mail as part of a larger project to roll-out new systems to include a greater online presence. Headline, known to Trinity Mirror through established links within the Newspaper industry, were approached to provide a test management resource to work on the project.

The Requirement

The requirement from Headline was to manage a technical test team working closely with the business and development teams to develop the programme test strategy. This would involve the development and execution of test cases based on business requirements and functional specifications for the purpose of modular, product and site integration testing. Another element would also include working closely with the infrastructure team to deliver disaster recovery and performance testing.

The Approach

Working closely with the business and development teams, Headline drew on their previous experience of working with Trinity Mirror and long-standing newspaper experience to understand the specifications for the development of the new ad booking, credit control and on-line ad booking systems, and to build a test strategy and test cases to match these specifications. During a six-month period, a schedule of modular testing was carried out as new functionality was delivered. Following the modular testing phase, a period of regression testing was carried out to ensure that new functionality had not conflicted with existing functionality. Finally, the new applications were configured on the live infrastructure with all interfaces to prepress, production and planning for two months of Product, Site Integration, Disaster Recovery and Performance Testing.

Yet another productive and efficient experience highlighting Headline's diverse skill set, this time in test management.

We were confident that their process driven approach applied to training and in particular, their experience of the publishing industry, working with Headline on this project would be of benefit to us - and so it proved.

Testing, planning and documentation were all maintained to a high standard throughout the process and Headline's role in our overall project was a success.

Colin Byers
Regional IT Support Manager
Trinity Mirror PLC

Go-Live

Following the successful completion of Site Integration Testing, the ad booking and credit control systems went live at the end of September, in time to produce the first publication, the Tory conference supplement. This also coincided with Trinity's move to the Urban Splash Fort Dunlop premises where 120 users are now successfully using the new systems to produce advertising for titles such as the Birmingham Mail, Birmingham Post and Sunday Mercury, including uploads to online advertising web sites such as the Fish4 advertising portals.

Mission Accomplished