

# Cabling world leader picks R&M for Norwegian sites

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Draka offers thousands of advanced cables and cable solutions.

## Among the most respected names in cabling engineering, Draka knows how to pick a quality cable solution for itself.

Draka Norsk Kabel and Draka Comteq Norway are companies in the international Draka Holding cable group which develops, engineers, manufactures and sells thousands of advanced cables and cable solutions for all kinds of applications and situations. Overall, Draka is the sixth-largest cable manufacturer in the world and the third-largest in Europe.

In Norway, Draka employs some 380 staff at a number of locations, and it was at two of these – when a thorough renovation of premises was taking place – that R&M was selected as the provider of data cabling, plugs and patch cords.

With its impressive pedigree in cabling technology one would expect Draka to know a thing or two about quality cabling and how to make the most of available technologies:

“We replaced Cat. 5/Class D cabling with an overall Cat. 7/Class E cabling to some 150 network points across office and production locations, enabling us to eventually move to 10 Gb/s transmission speeds on the network,” said IT Manager Ole Petter Hobbestad, Draka Norsk Kabel AS.

Draka’s installation comprises mainly Cisco network transmission equipment and pc-based workstations. It was the company’s expertise and insight into ca-

bling technology that drove it to rely on the R&M products for network infrastructure.

### Standards compliance

A keen eye on approved standards meant that Draka opted for Cat. 6 components, while basing its entire cabling installation on Cat. 7 STP. These Cat. 6 components from R&M are certified to be capable of supporting 10 Gbps transmissions, which may soon become the speed used at Draka.

“While Cat. 7 standards for the cables are in place, we saw Cat. 6 as the more sensible plug choice because it gives us future options of 10 Gb/s transmission, or indeed we could decide to upgrade the plugs and components with Cat. 6A or, potentially, Cat. 7. This would bring us fully approved standards, though it would still be on the same network speed,” explained Ole Petter Hobbestad.

In any case, Draka’s main objective with its network re-installation has already been achieved: a marked improvement in reliability and throughput.

“We’ve achieved a massive improvement simply by improving reliability. In the old network installation we operated at 100 Mb/s and the quality of the cables and plugs would never have allowed for the kind of stability we have today. We are extremely pleased with the quality and reliability of the R&M cabling products; they truly allow for quality bandwidth on the network,” said Ole Petter Hobbestad.

### New infrastructure

The R&M cabling solution was installed at around 150 office work spaces and printer access points and some further 50 are planned in the office facility in the Årnes plant. It included a complete removal of all previous generation cabling in various buildings and creating an all-new network in a new infrastructure.

“We’ve made sure our entire cabling and infrastructure is ready for the 21st century. A good example of this is the way we know that we will be able to upgrade as required and retain flawless compatibility and reliability across the network,” said the IT manager.

Draka’s installation of R&M products was ordered and delivered by local Norwegian network specialist Tele Teknikk.

Editor’s note: the Draka and R&M groups are cooperation partners in a number of areas within cabling technology and production. This editorial article was produced independently of these activities.

### Complete solution:

- 150 office work places and printer points with Cat. 6 solution
- 50 other network points planned for the Årnes Plant
- Full Cat. 7 cabling
- Cat. 6 plugs
- All cables, plugs and patches



Draka is the sixth-largest cable manufacturer in the world.

get more

for Draka

- Reliability
- 2, 5 and 20 years warranty on R&M parts in the installation
- R&M certification of installers
- Complete standards compliance of components used

