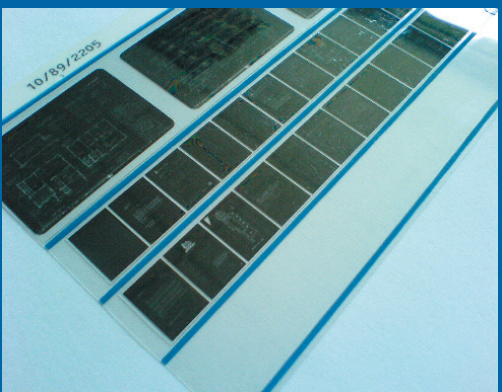




Both Capita Symonds and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council are extremely pleased with the quality of service provided and have no hesitation in recommending Cad-Capture to other Local Planning Authorities embarking on similar projects.



Customer Focus



Project: e-Planning

Cad-Capture has recently completed a project for Capita Symonds on behalf of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council to scan all the Council's planning applications dating from 1st January 1974 to the present day.

Part of a nationwide 'e-Planning' initiative, the Council embarked on the project to help satisfy criteria outlined in the National Planning Website Review by Peter Pendleton and Associates regarding the exchange of planning information via the Internet, now assessed against Audit Commission Best Value Performance Indicators 109 and 205.

The initiative aims to improve the service provided by Local Planning Authorities by delivering convenient, round-the-clock access to applications, plans, decisions and appeals etc, whilst reducing operational costs and response times.

With Cad-Capture having successfully completed another large scale scanning project in 2004 enabling Capita Symonds to minimise its storage requirements following a move into new, prestigious, purpose-built offices in Blackburn, the multi-disciplinary consultancy practice appreciated that the quality of service provided would be of paramount importance in helping Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council achieve its aims in regards to e-Planning and as such, selected Cad-Capture following an extensive assessment of the country's leading scanning bureaux.

A phased approach was taken, with Cad-Capture processing the most recent planning applications first. These were available as paper files comprising a wide variety of both large and small format documentation including plans, correspondence and decision notices etc. Over 6,000 paper planning applications were processed comprising a total of 220,000 pages.

Subsequent phases involved the capture of over 28,000 planning applications which had been archived to microfiche as 16mm and 35mm frames inserted into clear plastic jackets.

Images comprising each planning application were released in Adobe PDF format and indexed according to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's unique reference number for upload into the Council's document management system. An industry standard format, Adobe PDF was chosen because of its ability to easily incorporate both large and small format images within a single file and ease of navigation with thumbnail images and content search capability.

Simon Watts, Managing Director Cad-Capture said "Having worked with over 50 Local Authorities across the UK, Cad-Capture is delighted to extend its already considerable portfolio of services to help clients realise their e-Planning ambitions".

Tony Ennis, Associate Director at Capita Symonds said "Both Capita Symonds and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council are extremely pleased with the quality of service provided and have no hesitation in recommending Cad-Capture to other Local Planning Authorities embarking on similar projects".

About Capita Symonds

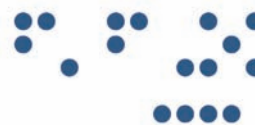
A multi-disciplinary practice providing a broad range of professional services covering design, construction, engineering and property markets, Capita Symonds's Blackburn operation was established in July 2001, borne out of an award-winning strategic partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and the Capita Group Plc.

If you would like to know more about what we could do for you, phone:

01254 504444

or visit our website at:

www.cadcap.co.uk



CAD-CAPTURE