



Communications

The West Midlands is one of the major telecommunications centres in the UK. Companies and organisations have immediate access to the most advanced communications networks in Europe.

Innovative information and communications technology is the lifeblood of the region and the backbone to its entrepreneurial success. The same inventive spirit that confirmed the West Midlands as the heart of manufacturing has now established the region as home to communications excellence.

You might be surprised to discover some of the following facts.

- * There are over 100 companies either involved in the manufacture of telecoms equipment or engaged in the provision of voice and/or data communications
- * Service providers in the region include BT, Cable & Wireless, Telewest, NTL, Thus, Norweb Telecom, Energis
- * Network technology has been engineered to allow for the demands of today's businesses who depend on communications technology, whether they are based in the centre of Coventry or the rural heart of Herefordshire
- * Network capacity is currently utilized at around 50%
- * The Remote Area BroadBand Inclusion Trial (RABBIT) aims to find alternative ways of providing broadband access to small businesses in rural areas
- * The CW2000 initiative helps small businesses in Coventry and Warwickshire with the use of broadband technology
- * Several Business Parks within the West Midlands are designated BTeLocations

The communications infrastructure in our region combines cutting-edge technology with dynamic and relevant support that both sustains and stimulates the success rates of our business community. Crucially, our inclusive approach aims to provide these vital communications links to businesses wherever they are rural or metropolitan. And whoever they are – big or small.