

# THE SPACE STUDIO BY FITNESS FIRST

A Vertiv Case Study



## ABOUT THE COMPANY

The first Fitness First club in Australia opened in 2000 and now has more than 200,000 members visiting 62 clubs across Australia.

In addition, Fitness First also opened its first ever dedicated mind-body studio within the Barangaroo precinct, The Space Studio. Hot Yoga classes take place in a room that is set to 35 degrees for 90 minutes using specialty heat pads mounted directly to the ceiling and side walls of the yoga studio. The multi-purpose studio is then cooled back to ambient temperature via the building's HVAC system.

## Case Summary

**Location:** Australia

**Vertiv Solution:**

- SmartCabinet™

**Critical Needs:**

The Space Studio had some logistical challenges in situating a communications cabinet. Firstly, the studio is situated on the second level of a high rise building, making it difficult to exhaust the heat away from the IT equipment. Space was set aside for a communications cabinet to be installed in a kitchenette adjacent to a multi-purpose yoga studio that was heated up to 35 degrees during yoga classes. In addition, the kitchenette footprint was a tight, oddly-shaped hexagon, with floor-to-ceiling external glass windows opening out to the hot yoga studio.

The biggest challenge was to deliver a 35 degree heated yoga room to members, while at the same time supplying cooler ambient temperature to the IT systems' switches/control situated in the adjacent kitchenette.

Fitness First IT Manager, Adam Rendulic explains, "In the past, we had a custom-built communications cabinet with racks, sealed piping and ventilation. However, in the Barangaroo property we had to consider the acoustic level of the IT equipment affecting the yoga experience and the number of surrounding heat sources, like floor-to-ceiling glass windows and the adjacent hot yoga room. Our challenge was to mitigate the risk of overheating in the rack. I had heard about a new product called the SmartCabinet™ and so reached out to Vertiv to find out more information."

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## Situation:

The Space Studio was looking for a communications cabinet that could house the Barangaroo club's IT equipment. The company needed a self-contained communications cabinet that was secure, contained switches, power backup, air-conditioning, remote access and could fit within the confines of a small kitchenette located on the third level of a high rise office building.

## The Solution

The Space Studio learned about the SmartCabinet™ at a trade event and had some exploratory one on one meetings with Vertiv. Knowing that introducing a new type of technology could bring with it a new set of challenges, Daniel Sargent, Vertiv's solutions partner manager in Australia, linked up with Fitness First's IT partner Servcore, which has been assembling and commissioning the customer's IT requirements for the past few years.

Matt Munday, IT Project Manager of Servcore explains; *"This was the first time we have seen technology such as this implemented within The Space Studio and it was exciting to see the benefits and features it could bring to their new yoga hot space. Vertiv were beyond helpful with additional knowledge and information in regards to operational concerns within this site such as space, heat and the acoustics that come with installation a communications rack within a hot yoga studio.*

*The way in which the solution could be installed was surprising and pleasing as it allowed an installation flat against the wall, backing on to heating elements within the gyrock while still managing to install the condenser in a safe and practical location venting in to the buildings HVAC system. Very early on the entire solution was put to the test throughout the heatwaves felt around Sydney in the summer months however everything impressively ran smoothly throughout the period without missing a beat.*

*Vertiv were fantastic when organising delivery and installation in conjunction with their internal services and our on-site team. A fully functional solution within 48hrs of delivery was a great result for the customer who was nearing their operational deadline and retail launch date" Matt adds.*

## The Outcome

Not only did the SmartCabinet™ provided the critical infrastructure support The Space Studio needed, but the solution's footprint was perfect for the building's small area. Furthermore, what has surprised the yoga instructors the most is the low acoustics of both the servers and the condenser. In fact, yoga instructors describe it as *"surprisingly quiet and goes largely unnoticed during their meditation sessions."*



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