

#08 DEC 2024

# NEWSLTR

IMPROVING LIVES BY TRANSFORMING THE SPACES WHERE PEOPLE LIVE, WORK AND MEET



## EMBRACING INCLUSIVITY

#legrandimprovinglives

Encouraging Diversity at Work

4

Starline Track Busway

11

Embracing The Digital Data Center

12

THE GLOBAL SPECIALIST  
IN ELECTRICAL AND DIGITAL BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURES







#LegrandImprovingLives







## Encouraging Diversity at Work

Inclusion is part of our DNA and makes us stronger every day. Like Legrand teams all over the world, our local team is enriched by human differences.

## Health & Safety

The safety, health & well-being of our teams are priorities for Legrand SA, and these are approached with an attitude of continuous improvement.

## Making a Paw-sitive Impact

Believing that “Improving Lives” extends to our four-legged, furry friends too, some members of Legrand SA rallied round to make a paws-itive impact.

## Pride Shelter Trust

Legrand South Africa, and the local chapter of #LegrandRainbow, step up to assist shelter for LGBTQI+ minority groups.

04

## Starline Track Busway

Starline Track Busway boasts high quality materials, worldwide certifications and a patented u-shaped co providing a seamless connection.

06

## Embracing The Digital Data Center

With new technologies being embraced, data centers powering these technologies are under pressure to do more, and to do it more efficiently and swiftly.

07

08

11

12

The Legrand NEWSLTR publication team would like to thank all the participants:

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATION: Melanie Vosloo  
EDITORIAL STAFF: Shaun Dobbs , Quinton Pillay  
LAYOUT: Shaun Dobbs  
PHOTOS: Legrand, Shutterstock  
All rights reserved © Legrand December 2024



# #WeEmbraceInclusivity

## Encouraging Diversity at Work



#LegrandImprovingLives



**Legrand has always made inclusion self-evident by welcoming the diversity of our customers and our co-workers and by considering it as a strength and an opportunity.**

Inclusion is part of our DNA and makes us stronger every day. Like Legrand teams all over the world, our local team is enriched by human differences. For them, as for all our stakeholders, we guarantee attention, respect and fairness. We celebrate inclusion and diversity as drivers of enhanced performance and humanity; making us a better business.

In 2020, the Legrand Rainbow network was initiated. This network is open to LGBTQ+ staff, friends and allies. As cases of homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in the workplace are still real and present, the international network, supported by the Group, aims to help to create an inclusive culture in which all employees can bring their whole selves to work, including those who are gay,

lesbian, bisexual, transgender or diverse.

In August of this year, the #LegrandRainbow local chapter was formed. This was just in time to celebrate South Africa's Pride Month, which takes place in October. It was in fact the 35th Anniversary of Pride in South Africa this year.

On 13 October 1990, Africa's very first Pride march was held in Johannesburg. On that day, around 800 people marched through the city to insist on their human rights.

Many of the around 800 participants wore masks or paper bags over their heads out of fear of being identified and targeted by the authorities. At that time, it was illegal to be lesbian or gay in South Africa.

With the advent of democracy in South Africa, and our inclusive Constitution, we now have laws in place that are intended to protect LGBTQ+ people from

discrimination, and to confirm our equality. So are Prides still important today?

Unfortunately, society, families and individuals have lagged behind our progressive laws. LGBTQ+ South Africans continue to face hate, prejudice, and even deadly violence, every year. This is why Pride remains important today, and why Legrand South Africa, with the local chapter of #LegrandRainbow, marked the occasion with a Pride and Allyship Celebration Day.

Our zone manager, Jean-Marc Gautier, was here to celebrate the day with us and stressed that inclusion and diversity are both of sincere value and importance to Legrand.

#LegrandRainbow helps to create an inclusive culture in which all employees can bring their whole selves to work. This includes:

- Equality in the workplace for LGBTQ+ employees by raising awareness with co-workers and teams.
- Promoting Legrand as an LGBTQ+ friendly company and attract, retain & develop LGBTQ+ employees.
- Provide a global, supportive, professional network that promotes mentoring & support.









# Health & Safety

## A Priority in the Workplace



**#ImprovingLives begins with those of our employees. The safety, health and well-being of teams in the workplace are priorities for Legrand South Africa and these are approached with an attitude of continuous improvement.**

Our warehouse staff, seen here, proudly showing of their new health and safety gear, as well our staff parking lot with all cars parked for easy exit in the case of an emergency.







# Improving Lives

## Making a Paws-itive Impact

With the approach of the festive season, and believing that “Improving Lives” extends to our four-legged, furry friends too, some members of the South African Team rallied round to do their best to make a paws-itive impact this holiday season.

The sad reality is that over the festive season, there is a spike in the number of pets that are dumped in remote areas, or left alone in vacant properties to fend for themselves. If they are fortunate, they will be found and rescued, and taken to a shelter. Other pets, the more fortunate ones, are surrendered directly to shelters. As a result, the influx of animals to shelters over the holiday season is extremely high.

Registered NPC, Santa Cause for Paws ([www.santapaws.co.za](http://www.santapaws.co.za)), in recognising this, has their main donation drive every



Christmas. Their Facebook page states, “Christmas is a happy time. A good time. A time to be surrounded by presents, family, good food and endless treats... But not for everyone. Shelter pets spend their Christmas alone, without special eats or treats. However, with your help, this Christmas we can make the sun shine just a little brighter for our beloved less fortunate animals in shelters.” The donations they receive support 232 Beneficiaries (Shelters) countrywide. It’s an

ambitious undertaking, and all run by a group of volunteers, all with full time jobs, so all done in their spare time. They also assist organisations that do outreach work in townships, feral feeders and fosters.

Thank you to Legrand South Africa’s Furry Friend Heroes; Anel Botha, Jayson Gough, Melanie Vosloo, Kelisha Gungadeen and Shaun Dobbs for suppwanting this great cause with their generous donations.

On behalf of Santa Cause for Paws, we handed over the donations to our nominated beneficiary, Kitty and Puppy Haven ([www.kittypuppyhaven.org.za](http://www.kittypuppyhaven.org.za)).







# Pride Shelter Trust

## Helping LGBTQI+ Individuals in Crisis

In April 2011, members of the LGBTQI+ community in the Western Cape gathered and established The Pride Shelter Trust in Cape Town. This was, and still is, the Western Cape's (and the African Continent's) first formal shelter providing short-term accommodation for LGBTQI+ minority groups during crisis periods. More than ten years later, with their original aim still at the heart of their operations, they also strive to promote dignity, self-respect and a sense of personal empowerment among all members of the LGBTQI+ community.

The Pride Shelter Trust provides short-term, safe accommodation to those LGBTQI+ individuals who have been evicted from their homes, or outcast from their communities because of their sexual orientation. The Pride Shelter Trust has celebrated many successes over the years, and supported hundreds of individuals in crisis. The organisation remains an active anchor for the LGBTQI+ community across all South African provinces and is a dependable source of support in to facilitate the recovery, support and integration of LGBTQI+ individuals into their respective society.

Throughout the years, staff, counsellors and volunteers have aided South African citizens, as well as legally confirmed refugees, or asylum seekers, in their short-term residential facility. These programmes include the provision of relevant



social support programmes that would drive change on the African continent.

Of course, the actual residence at the shelter is at the core of their everyday functioning. Like any building, maintenance and repairs are an ongoing necessity, and even more so when providing a safe haven for the residents. As such, #LegrandRainbow South Africa, with a knowledge of their incredible work, and a deep understanding of the plight of those they are helping, reached out to the organisation to see how we could help.

Lucille, the operations manager at The Pride Shelter Trust explained that their current distribution board was not in a good condition and was becoming a risk factor.

Legrand South Africa, and the local chapter of

#LegrandRainbow, immediately stepped up and arranged for a donation of a new distribution board, circuit breakers, socket outlets, multi-socket outlets, trunking and a new doorbell. Another one of their sponsors, who sees to all their electrical maintenance, will do the installation and provide the necessary Certificate of Compliance.

"We cannot express our gratitude and deep appreciation for the much needed donations from Legrand," said Lucille.







# Happy Birthday!

## Celebrating our Colleagues' Special Days



Michael - 23rd October



Ruan - 27th October



Kumeshnee - 29th October



Luan - 4th December





# Who's the Lucky Winner?

## Have you been shopping on our online store?

Our third, and final, Arteor with Netatmo, Online Store Surprise Winner, lucky draw is here

What did you have to do to enter? Buy any Arteor product on our online store to be entered into the draw.

### What's the prize?

Having already chosen to buy Arteor, you know these carefully crafted masterpieces give any space an elegant yet discrete look, adding to the design without distracting attention. So now discover how to take that to the next level with Connected Home functionality, thanks to Arteor with Netatmo. The selected winner will win an Arteor with Netatmo starter case which includes:

- Wifi Gateway
- Wireless Master Switch:
- Smart Powerpoint:
- Smart Light Switch:
- Wireless Switch



Plus we will also include free installation (excludes any additional consumables)\*

\*A WiFi network connected to Internet, via Modem/Router, is required.

### Terms and Conditions

- Only customers of our online store who have purchased Arteor products are eligible to be entered into the draw.
- Winners need to scan the QR code and fill in the form to claim their prize. Prize needs to be claimed within two months of publication of the newsletter.
- Prize is not exchangeable for other product or cash.
- The judges decision is final.



**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE  
FOR MORE  
AWN INFO**

## OUR DECEMBER WINNER IS:

***Richard Korke***



Be sure to scan  
the QR Code  
to claim your  
prize Richard





# Starline Track Busway

## The Perfect Solution for the Growing Needs of Data Centers

**Starline Track Busway boasts high quality materials and worldwide certifications. Its patented u-shaped copper busbars provide a seamless connection, and their continuous access slot allows for easy layout changes without any interruptions to service. Moreover, the Starline Track Busway is UL, ETL listed, and CE marked, making it a reliable option for those seeking superior design with constant tension. Its first of its kind access slot allows for flexible layout changes, giving users more control and versatility.**

Starline Plug-In Units are incredibly safe and easy to install. All you have to do is insert and turn, with no complicated mechanisms or levers to worry about. Plus, you can customize them to meet your unique specifications, offering options for outlets, drop cords, circuit breakers, fused disconnects, terminal blocks, and power metering.



They provide reliable solutions and many choices, enabling you to tailor your outlets and circuit breakers to your precise needs.

The growing adoption to AI leads to profound changes in data centre power requirements and infrastructure planning. As AI technologies advance, data centres power demands and infrastructure requirements must evolve to

accommodate increasing power densities, changing hardware configurations, and dynamic workloads. Data centres must be agile enough to scale up or down quickly to meet fluctuating demands without disrupting operations. This adaptability ensures efficient resource utilization, future-proofs the facility, and creates a scalable data centre for seamless expansion to meet growing computational needs. Together, adaptability and scalability are essential cornerstones in designing data centres that can effectively harness the potential of AI while staying responsive to evolving business and technology trends.

AI is driving the size of data centre campuses from MW to GW, and driving up the scale of power distribution, air flow and physical space requirements. The aggressive growth in power

density is challenging the entire industry from utility service to stand by power topology to the cabinet itself. We are stretching and contracting physical real estate to move air, reject heat, and create pathways for the same. Design criteria are evolving with technology. We must embrace new possibilities and approaches to progress. Keeping an open mind and collaborating across fields can help us make

the most of available technologies and create a better future for all.

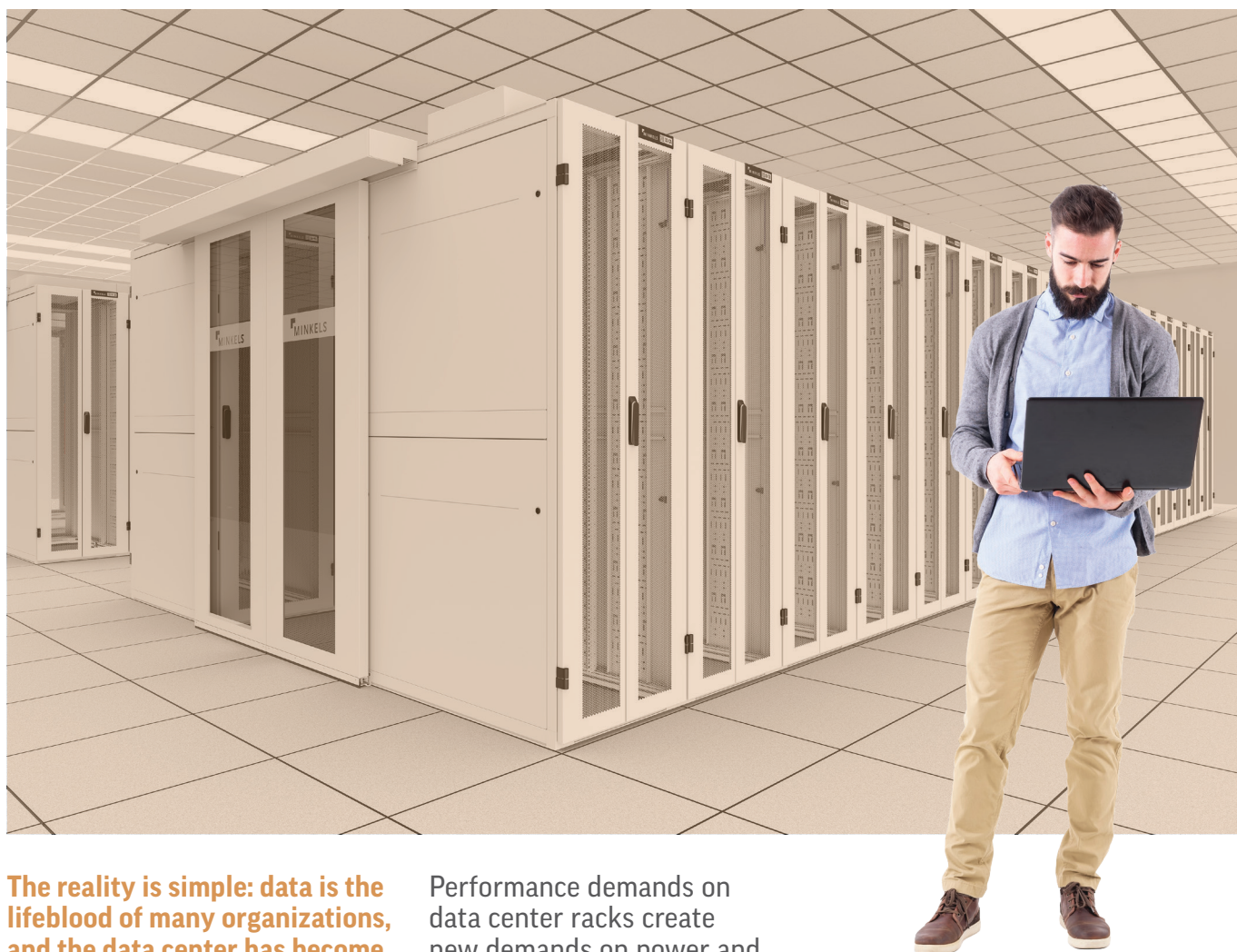
This makes Starline Track Busway the perfect solution for the growing needs of Data Centres.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON STARLINE TRACK BUSWAY AND OTHER DATA CENTER SOLUTIONS, CONTACT OUR TEAM ON : 011 444 7971**



# Embracing The Digital Data Center

## How Environmental Monitoring and Visibility Lead to Operational Insights



The reality is simple: data is the lifeblood of many organizations, and the data center has become the heart. With organizations embracing advanced technologies—from AI to Machine and Deep Learning to IoT—and generating more data that will get us into the yottabyte age, data centers powering these technologies are under pressure to do more and to do it more efficiently and swiftly.

Performance demands on data center racks create new demands on power and environmental infrastructures. Faster, hotter chips, larger servers, cluster networks, storage, and rising densities will push the limits of legacy data center infrastructure and designs.

Data centers are one of the most energy-intensive building types, consuming 10 to 50 times the energy per floor space of a

typical commercial office building. As the use of information technology grows, data center and server energy use is expected to grow, too. Many efficiency strategies are already successfully employed in data centers, including advanced technologies like predictive analytics and data-driven machine learning.





However, more needs to be done, and data center infrastructures need increasing levels of intelligence to survive.

One way to increase a data center's intelligence is to implement intelligent data center monitoring solutions to survey critical resources. In other words, advanced tools are needed to monitor a data center's every "heartbeat" accurately and in real time. These tools should be able to tell you if there is enough power, a harmful hotspot, an unauthorized user near an open cabinet, wasteful overcooling, if there are harmful environmental hazards, and how new workloads are affecting specific cabinets, as some examples.

Among the tools used in data centers, intelligent environmental sensors play a significant role in monitoring data centers. Sensors can provide alerts about potential problems that can jeopardize the performance and life of IT assets. Today, more than ever, data centers—edge, core, and colo's—are relying on more intelligent sensor tools to provide accurate insights into the environmental health in and around IT equipment racks. These tools continue to advance and evolve to meet new data center challenges.



**Environmental monitoring provides a complete picture of data center conditions at the rack, aisle, and facility levels. They reveal trends and alert operators to real-time risks or potential threats.**

The idea is simple: you can't effectively manage what you can't monitor and measure. IT managers are tasked with providing a better-planned, more proactive environment, have increased operational

efficiency, and maintain a higher service level. Achieving actionable, granular visibility into a data center and its operations requires managers to monitor critical environmental variables like cooling conditions, temperature, humidity, power, rack conditions, and much more.

Therefore, it's important to note that there are sensors for every situation, including:

- Keeping the White Space's Humidity in Check
- Maintaining Optimal Temperature
- Detecting Water Leaks
- Maintaining Optimal Air Pressure
- Ensuring Cabinet and Rack Security
- Monitoring and Managing Airflow
- Many More Applications

Another essential point to note—is that in the past, all this monitoring and management was time-consuming and often done manually. Sometimes, issues took hours to resolve. And, frequently, monitoring solutions were difficult and costly to deploy. Most of all, these sensors and systems had little interoperability with existing rack infrastructure—adding another layer of management and complexity.

One intelligent solution, Legrand's SmartSensors, can be deployed as plug-and-play options with intelligent rack PDUs, inline meters, branch circuit monitors, and other rack management solutions—eliminating the need for a separate controller and underlying networking. The SmartSensor technology uses advanced metering components to provide more accurate and valuable data. Furthermore, environmental data can be instantly sent to DCIM software solutions to see real-time environment data and trends over time—along with other infrastructure metrics, such as power capacity and power quality—on one dashboard. This is key to enabling a proactive environment for your data center operations.

This is the era of smart and connected IT infrastructure. The beauty here is that you don't need to rip out and replace your existing systems. Many of these sensors and new solutions are designed to work with existing environments.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LEGRAND'S SMARTSENSORS AND OTHER DATA CENTER SOLUTIONS, CONTACT OUR TEAM ON : 011 444 7971**



#legrandImprovingLives

