

Fast, Flexible, Responsive

Hamilton Rentals empowers Atlantic Productions to stay on track with 3D rendering tasks

Cutting edge servers, workstations and NAS devices – high capacity and high performance solutions for 3D modelling and demanding rendering tasks



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Steve Cullen, Head of IT at Atlantic Productions

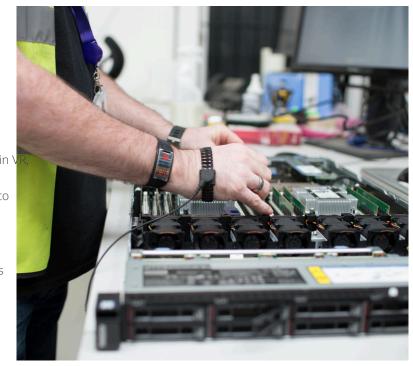
Background

Cutting-edge Hardware Brings Projects to Life

A multi-award winning independent factual production company and pioneer in immersive storytelling, Atlantic Productions makes groundbreaking content for a variety of mediums. Everything from TV programmes to theatrical and IMAX films, apps, visual effects, immersive virtual reality and online interactive experiences.

Behind some of the most exciting advancements in VAR and Al storytelling, the company's specialist production teams rely on cutting-edge hardware to bring their photo realistic projects to life.

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Dealing with Demand Peaks

Handling multiple large scale programme and project commissions in parallel means that any delays to CGI or 3D rendering tasks risks compromising delivery targets and studio capacity. While Atlantic operates its own rendering farm facility, occasionally its studios need additional fire power to cope with complex rendering projects that involve processing terabytes (TB) of data per programme episode.

"From time to time, I'm asked to provide additional resources at short notice. Rather than buying costly hardware to fulfil these short term requirements, I need to find other ways to satisfy these demand peaks", says Steve.

Rental: a cost-effective and responsive options

In these scenarios, rental is Steve's solution of choice for two reasons. Firstly, it delivers against the pressing need for speed, with supplementary high end workstations, servers or storage arrays arriving onsite in a matter of days – or less. Secondly, it makes sound commercial sense.

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"Renting allows us to allocate OPEX costs to individual projects and avoid budget overrides. We're able to rent what we need, for as long as we need, and at a fixed cost. In other words, we're not hampered by protracted procurement lead times or CAPEX costs for supplementary technology that will eventually be surplus to requirements," continues Steve.

If Steve needs to temporarily scale up processing resources and give individual project teams all the fire power they need, he can turn to Hamilton Rentals.

The Solution

Flexibility and Customisation

"Earlier this year, Steve needed to create a dedicated render node to handle 3D visualisations to support the production teams working on a newly commissioned project.

"It became clear that we would need to supplement our existing capacity for a period of six to eight months. However, renting capacity with a cloud server farm isn't an option for us – when you're dealing with 90TB of data per episode, the cost and complexity of initiating the internet bandwidth needed to seamlessly enable rapid upload/download links is simply too prohibitive," says Steve.

The answer was to create an additional rendering node cluster within Atlantic's own datacentre. That meant sourcing servers that offered all the processing power needed, in a form factor that was compatible with the company's existing server racks.

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"At the close of the project, the production teams realised it would need the kit for an additional week and Hamilton extended the hire at short notice, with favourable terms. Once the rendering project closed, I simply packaged everything up and Hamilton collected the kit. It was as simple as that," confirms Steve.

Why Hamilton Rentals?

In an industry where 'making the impossible, possible' is a business as normal philosophy, partnering with a rental company that has a similar mindset and ethos is essential.

"In this past experience, I found that I could call Hamilton at the drop of a hat, ask for what I need, and it just happened. The whole process was incredibly smooth, the team are knowledgeable and understoond the importance of accommodating the unique commercial pressures we were working under," says Steve.

"Added to which, there are very few rental firms that carry the high-end resources we needed to cope with high intensity workloads we typically handle. Hamilton simply understood what we do, delivered what we asked and I didn't have to worry about it anymore. For me, that's worth its weight in gold."

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Hamilton Rentals IT & AV Rental Solutions

Contact us

With over 35 years of experience, Hamilton Rentals delivers Technology and IT services to organisations and events of every shape and size. Our capabilities cover technology provision, engineering, logistics, consulting, project and managed services, and asset retirement, making us perfectly positioned to help with your IT and AV requirements.

See how Hamilton Rentals can help your business succeed. Please contact us on info@hamilton.co.uk





