The Lakes Distillery opened on the banks of Bassenthwaite Lake in Cumbria, in the summer of 2014, with water for the distillery sourced directly from the River Derwent. It is the only distillery in Cumbria to produce and distil its spirits on-site.

The first bottles of the malt was made available in 2017 and the distillery has produced an award-winning special British Isles blended whisky, called The One.

Paul Currie, the company's founder and managing director, established the distillery in converted old buildings at an original Victorian Model Farm.

The Lakes Distillery, which has its head office in the Newcastle upon Tyne suburb of Gosforth, employs about 40 people, who work on production of whisky, gin and vodka, and products sales through the distillery's bistro, on distillery tours, and in the distillery's shop.

The Challenge

The Lakes Hotel needed full connectivity - including broadband and telephone - between its Bassenthwaite production site, its Gosforth headquarters, and the Trout Hotel in Cockermouth. The company also wanted a responsive and reliable support service.

Aspire's Solution

Aspire installed new IT infrastructure and hardware across the company, including broadband connectivity and a new MITEL telephony system, and it is also delivering RealCARE, its state-of-the-art support package.

"Aspire was appointed to deliver its RealCARE support service, which offers desktop and server support, regular system health checks, disaster recovery, backup monitoring and network support, depending on business requirements for The Lakes Distillery's head office in Gosforth, the Trout Hotel and the distillery in Cumbria.

"The infrastructure project, including telephony, PC's and server and Wi-Fi install, was managed by Aspire. The Trout Hotel and our head office have also benefited from a Desktop refresh.

We are very happy with the service and support provided by Aspire, and look forward to continued progress over the coming years to keep up-to-date on all IT developments."

Mike Hodgson, Administrator at The Lakes Distillery