

INTO SOMERSET CASE STUDY – BUSINESS SERVICES

Ylem Limited

Rural IT solutions company Ylem has really profited from Somerset's business support networks.

Somerset Chamber of Commerce and other local business groups have provided contacts which have yielded over £1million turnover for Dulverton-based Ylem.

Ylem moved to Somerset from Oxfordshire in 1996 and was relaunched and expanded five years later – and has never looked back.

Managing Director Sandra Wilson says, "The local authorities in Oxfordshire did not want businesses in the villages, so planning was a problem. We wanted space to develop a rural IT business and access to quality countryside. Air pollution was a consideration.

"When we relocated to Somerset the business of the company in Oxfordshire was sold, so we started from scratch. We bought a small farm and started by first renovating the redundant farm outbuildings. We then made sure that we had good communications, with access to up to 50 Mb SDSL.

"The Oxfordshire business was re-acquired in 2004 and today the business has a turnover of approximately £750,000 and employs 13 staff."

Somerset provides access to customers and the ability to attract and train staff, some of whom are local, while others have relocated to Somerset, says Mrs. Wilson.

The lifestyle and environment in West Somerset, near the Exmoor National Park, is outstanding. "It provides a quality location to attract and entertain clients, as well as being one of the best locations in the world."

Ylem offers complete business IT and communications solutions, including Enterprise Resource Planning; hardware, networking; consultancy; project management; installation and training and system support. In 2006, it was voted Somerset Rural Diversification Business of the Year.



CONTACT DETAILS

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