



## **KoldLok Grommets Critical to Cooling Strategy as SAS Upgrades to Blade Servers**

### **Key Highlights**

#### **Customer:**

SAS

#### **Data Center Details:**

Three data centers, totaling approximately 26,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

#### **Needs:**

SAS planned to bring in new blade servers, so it needed a more effective strategy for cooling its data centers.

#### **Upsite Solution:**

KoldLok Raised Floor Grommets

#### **Results:**

- With a more complete seal around cabling (KoldLok Raised Floor Grommets create a tighter seal and cannot be dislodged.), SAS has been able to keep data center temperatures within desired ranges.
- SAS has standardized with KoldLok Raised Floor Grommets for new equipment installations in all its U.S. data centers.



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— Steve Spooner, Operations Engineer



### Customer

SAS, the world’s largest privately held software company, is the market leader in business intelligence software and services. Customers at 40,000 sites, including 96 of the top 100 companies on the FORTUNE Global 500®, manage and gain insights from vast amounts of data, resulting in faster, more accurate business decisions; more profitable relationships with customers and suppliers; compliance with governmental regulations; research breakthroughs; and better products. The company serves customers in 110 countries through more than 400 offices and 9,800 employees.

### Data Center Needs

With more than 400 worldwide locations, SAS truly runs around the clock. The company manages data that’s essential to worldwide operations—like business systems and critical R&D information— at three data centers at SAS headquarters in Cary, North Carolina.

In 2004, SAS planned to upgrade much of its infrastructure to blade servers at the North Carolina location, however, in other data centers where the company had added blade servers, the sites experienced corresponding hotspots. The company found that some products it tested for these new installations could be dislodged or rearranged, affecting the integrity of the seal and reducing efficiency.

### Solution

Steve Spooner, Operations Engineer at SAS, installed KoldLok Grommets in all three US data centers. Start to finish, it only took about 15 minutes for him alone to put each one in place. As older equipment is replaced, the company is gradually installing KoldLok products throughout its three data centers.

With a more complete seal around cabling, SAS has been able to keep data center temperatures within desired ranges.

“With the blade servers coming in, we knew we’d need a product like this to assist with cooling performance,” Spooner said. “KoldLok makes a nice, neat installation, and they can’t be dislodged. We’re satisfied handling new blade servers with KoldLok.”

Moving forward, SAS considers KoldLok products an integral part of its strategy for protecting and ensuring uptime of sensitive equipment and data. For similar situations, Spooner regularly recommends KoldLok Grommets to peers at AFCOM meetings.

“As we have invested in new equipment and replaced racks, we have standardized with KoldLok Grommets to circumvent cooling problems,” Spooner said.