Bournemouth phone systems firm secures second deal in six months

A Bournemouth-based telecoms equipment supplier has completed another acquisition within six months of its first ever buyout in its 23-year history.

4Com, which supplies phone systems to more than 10,000 businesses, has followed up its <u>purchase of West Bromwich</u> <u>outfit Midshire Telecom</u> in May, by buying up Norwich-based Eastern Voice and Data for an undisclosed sum.

Chief executive Gary Scutt said: "We talk to a lot of companies as part of our acquisitions process, and from the outset we were impressed with how the team at Eastern have grown their business.

"As with our acquisition of Midshire Telecom, there is a tremendous amount of opportunity here, and we're looking forward to welcoming them into the 4Com group."

John Pennington, director at Eastern, thanked his team at the 30-year-old firm, saying: "We are extremely proud of the reputation that we have forged in the industry. On behalf of the directors, I'd like to thank our incredibly talented team for their hard work in helping us to reach this point."

Bosses at the expanding 4Com said the business was keen to talk to other telecoms companies considering selling their entire business, or part of their customer base.

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