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## [iForce prepares for Christmas shoppers](#)

12/09/11

By Karen Moss

iForce anticipates taking on between 1,800 to 2,000 agency staff to cover the fast approaching peak period when the UK starts its Christmas shopping online. For nine months of the year iForce operates with 550 full-time employees and a core team of around 200 agency colleagues.

The online retail peak period from 1 October to 31 December is when e-fulfilment is truly tested, and during this period last year iForce dispatched 2.6 million orders. That's 10 million items with a total retail value of £200 million – both figures showing a 14 per cent increase on the previous year.

Mark Hewitt, CEO at iForce commented: "We anticipate an even busier peak this year not just because clients, such as John Lewis, Sainsbury and Boots, achieve strong year on year online retail growth but also because the volumes being processed through iForce's multi-channel returns processing and remarketing arm will have soared."

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[Phones4u turn to Fujitsu/Tata Consultancy Services](#)

Fujitsu Technology Solutions has partnered with Tata Consultancy Services to deliver a PRIMERGY BladeFrame-based dynamic infrastructure to Phones4U, alongside NetApp V-Series storage

[William Hill links up with paysafecard](#)

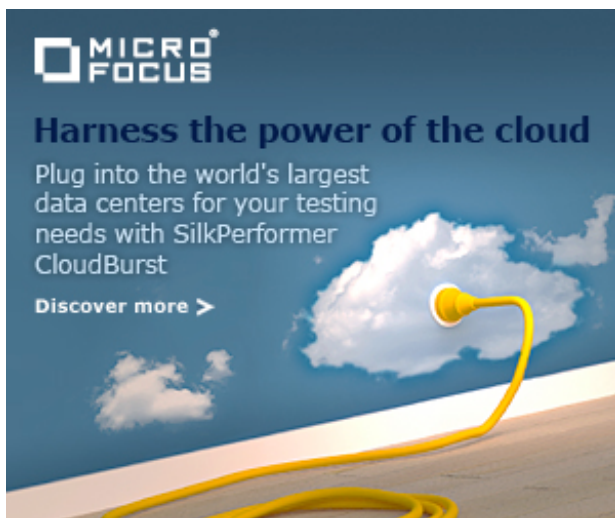
William Hill customers can now use online cash solution, paysafecard, when spending money

[Some cheer amongst the gloom](#)

Retailers' IT budgets have been slashed by about 20 per cent over the past year, down from 1.3 per cent to 1.1 per cent as a percentage of sales, according to the latest Martec International IT in Retail report



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