

Accounting firm transforms to be more agile by migrating to the cloud

An international accountancy and advisory firm, with 270 offices around the world, more than 18,000 professionals, and annual revenues of £1.3 billion.

CLIENT

Founded in 1940, the client specializes in audit, accountancy, advisory, tax and legal services and operates in more than 100 countries and territories. With an entrepreneurial spirit and a desire to create value at the heart of its DNA, it differentiates itself by the opportunities it offers its people, its approach to working with customers, and its passion for responsible business. The client's customers range from small and medium-sized enterprises to mid-caps and global players, as well as start-ups and public organizations at every stage of development. "What we do is make financial accounting more mobile and global from whatever region our customers operate in," says the client's Chief Technology Officer.

CHALLENGE

With impressive global growth comes major IT and infrastructure challenges. The client's servers were humming from 9am until 5pm but sat unused the rest of the time, drawing on resources and requiring regular maintenance. In addition to its 17 UK offices, it had also acquired an Australian company and struggled with slow Citrix operating speeds between London and Australia.

The client had traditionally run its data center and infrastructure services for its global operations from its London offices. It needed to enable its end-users to work more flexibly and remotely, while using legacy applications, and it wanted to free up its small IT team to focus on business value services, such as its proprietary platforms that service its clients. The client decided that Microsoft Azure best solved those challenges and decided to migrate to the cloud.

They sought a transformative solution delivered with market-leading expertise. To meet its demanding selection criteria, the client chose Ensono, winner of the 2018 Microsoft Datacenter Transformation Partner of the Year Award.

HIGHLIGHTS

CLIENT

An international accountancy and advisory business.

CHALLENGE

Manage the transition to the cloud, maximize the operational and financial benefits for the client and its customers.

SOLUTION

Ensono Cloud Transform framework which entailed a bespoke, managed migration to Microsoft Azure featuring Azure GoLive, Azure IaaS, Operations Management Suite, Citrix Cloud, Office 365, Windows 10, Enterprise Mobility and Security.

RESULTS

- Streamlined applications through the migration – roughly 200 applications were not migrated.
- Capital and maintenance savings with removal of physical infrastructure.
- A faster, more flexible and agile user experience for the client's customers.
- 45% increase in international revenues in past 4 years due to an optimized environment.

CASE STUDY: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

SOLUTION

Ensono provides hybrid IT solutions that address its clients' current needs, while anticipating and engineering solutions for the ever-changing demands of tomorrow. It aims to be a relentless ally for its clients, disrupting the status quo and enabling them to do great things.

"We wanted someone with experience migrating and deploying on a global scale, because often that's not as easy as flicking a switch," explained the client's CTO. "Ensono and Microsoft both have a deep understanding of modernizing an infrastructure."

Ensono utilized its Cloud Transform framework - specifically the Cloud Activate and Migrate stages. We began with a workshop and then designed a cloud blueprint and assessed application suitability for Azure, modeling IaaS cost structures and presenting options for re-platforming and cost control.

The whole point of Ensono Cloud Transform is to get our clients to the cloud as quickly as possible and enabling them to realize the benefits of cloud with a minimum amount of fuss. It's all about time-to-value with as little disruption as possible.

The company worked on designing, implementing, and configuring a bespoke migration solution, utilizing Azure IaaS, Operations Management Suite, Citrix Cloud, Office 365, Windows 10, and Enterprise Mobility and Security, among other solutions.

RESULTS

"Choosing Ensono's Managed Azure Service means we no longer have to worry about servers, maintenance, or IT support. By mobilizing our apps into the cloud, they're not so dependent on historic infrastructures," said the client's CTO.

As a result of the migration, the client has seen improved speed and availability for its 2,000 Citrix users globally, enhanced user experience, cost savings for real estate, and a competitive advantage by delivering client-specific apps from Azure. Ensono Envision - an insights platform - has identified more than \$50,000 in cost-saving opportunities through governance and optimization.

"This is a transformation project that has directly impacted the way the client does business," said Sean Roberts, General Manager for Public Cloud at Ensono.

HIGHLIGHTS

"Moving to the cloud isn't a technology project. It is a business project. It is a catalyst for changing the firm. Ensono's Cloud Transform service significantly reduced the risk of migrating to the cloud. The exceptional skills that Ensono has are evident at all levels of engagement."

- Chief Technology Officer