

Enlightening the Church of England through Cloud Transformation

Challenge

The Church of England had legacy systems that were failing them, and so it became clear they needed to transform their technology in order to better support their users.

In order to ensure that their updated systems were up-to-date and future proofed, the Church of England looked to an IaaS and Cloud solution which would allow them to move across all existing requirements and also enable them to do more with documents and data. The aim being to provide better collaboration and access for all across the UK.

The Church of England also found that their internal staff lacked new generation IT knowledge, and therefore would need a service provider that could assist with business readiness, helping to transfer knowledge and to work closely with them to ensure full understanding of the upgraded systems. The Church of England were looking for a partner, not just a supplier.

With an extensive requirement for server space and CPU resource, they required a provider that could deliver this alongside a Cloud solution - which led them directly to Exponential-e.

So, in January 2015, the Church of England looked to Exponential-e to move their on-premise legacy environment.

Solution

Due to large requirements for storage and resources, Exponential-e provides the Church of England with 122 servers alongside significant data storage volumes and CPU resources.

All of their applications, internet connections and point-to-point links are provisioned by Exponential-e and accessed using Citrix clients.

This means that the experience for users is seamless and, furthermore, resilience is guaranteed due to the implementation of replication across two data centres with automatic failover in the event of a disaster.

A phased departmental approach was used to retire legacy services and spin up new generation IT replacements in the data centre, to ensure minimal downtime and a seamless transition from old to new.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Church of England plays a vital role in the life of the nation, proclaiming the Christian gospel in words and actions and providing services of Christian worship and praise.

Fully committed to working towards the goal of full visible unity within the Christian Church, the Church of England plays an active role in national life with its members involved in a wide range of public bodies. Twenty-six bishops are members of the House of Lords and are engaged in debates about legislation and national and international affairs.

Its network of parishes cover the country, and bring a vital Christian dimension to the nation as well as strengthening community life in numerous urban, suburban and rural settings. Its Cathedrals are centres of spirituality and service, and its network of chaplaincies across continental Europe meet important local needs.



The Church of England is able to instantly manage their Cloud services using management consoles administered by their internal IT team. This means that internally they have full control over their Cloud landscape and can scale quickly and easily, as and when required.

The Cloud also allowed the Church of England to move their expenditure from capital to revenue spend.

Capitalising on the technology available to them, the Church of England were able to step away from their failing legacy systems and instead transform to an agile, scalable and cost-effective solution that has enabled them to continue their on-going work within the Christian community and beyond.

DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

"The partnership arrangement with Exponential-e adds great value. It enables us to plan our technology strategy more efficiently and we have the advantage of being able to spin-up environments instantly."

Yasmin Thompson

IT Director Church of England.

WHY EXPONENTIAL-E?

The Church of England were very pleased with the service provided by Exponential-e, particularly the ability to be able to spin-up environments instantly. The partnership arrangement adds great value to the organisation, with thorough information on what's new and what's changing to enable the Church of England to efficiently plan their technology strategy.

Exponential-e were able to use their extensive consultancy expertise to develop a tailored solution that perfectly met the requirements of the Church of England. The solution was purpose built and defined for the necessary requirements.

If the migration schedule slowed, Exponential-e were quick to offer support throughout the process and quickly mobilised a number of technical support technicians when required.

The Church of England found that the Exponential-e team were proactive problem solvers, identifying and delivering creative solutions that aptly met their needs.

ABOUT EXPONENTIAL-E

Innovation is at the core of Exponential-e, and has been since our inception in 2002. We wholly own our super-fast Network, and our fusion of complementary technologies - a carrier-class Network and Cloud infrastructure - means we can deliver enterprise applications at wire speed for a superior end-user experience. We deliver scalable, dynamic and bespoke solutions. Renowned for our

responsiveness, coupled with our customer centric approach, and a UK based 24 / 7 x 365 service desk, means we offer unrivalled expertise.

To find out more about Exponential-e visit www.exponential-e.com or email info@exponential-e.com



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