Insight's cloud solution keeps construction engineers working around the world

A global engineering solutions provider is a key partner in a vast range of complex building projects. The company had an on-premise data centre provider which was moving location, presenting the risk of data loss and downtime.

To protect its business-critical data, the company asked Insight to design and build its Azure cloud infrastructure and environment.

Insight worked closely with the client to deliver the project within a tight timeframe, so the business could continue serving its customers around the world.

The Challenge

The client needs constant access to its data so it can keep track of product demand and availability – enabling its customers to complete large scale and complex building projects.

However, when the incumbent data centre provider announced it was relocating, the client was concerned about the security of its data and the length of time it would be offline during the move.

A further issue was that with the existing on-premise data centre arrangement, the month-end billing for the global locations was taking 14 days to complete. The client was keen to reduce this lead time.

The moment seemed right for the business to move its operations to the cloud. However, any cloud solution they selected would need to be up and running by the time the incumbent provider turned off the data centre.

> "Insight has provided us with a cloud solution which has enabled our teams to work with increasing flexibility, meeting our customers' needs and helping to grow our business."
>
> **IT Director**

Quick Overview

Client:
A global provider of engineering solutions for building, construction, and infrastructure projects.

Size:
The company has more than 1,200 employees and serves businesses worldwide.

Challenge:
To design and build an Azure cloud infrastructure and environment.

Insight Solution:
Azure cloud technology.

The Solution

Following a Microsoft cloud assessment, Insight was engaged to design and build a cloud infrastructure and environment in Azure.

This involved the implementation of security features, networking and compute based on the Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure (CAF). The project also factored in the need for knowledge transfer of the new environment once the move was complete.

Insight used multiple resources to complete the infrastructure design, including skilled engineers to perform the design and build configurations in line with Microsoft best practice.

Configuring the infrastructure called for a combination of remote administration and on-site support.

With the design phase finalised, the business was then able to migrate its entire data centre to the new cloud platform.

Insight supported the client throughout the setup of the data and server migration. Speed was of the essence, so Insight built in quick feedback and review cycles to ensure the project was fulfilling the client's needs at every step.

As a result, the client was able to migrate to the new cloud environment in time, avoiding disruption from its previous provider's move.

Key Benefits

- A new Azure cloud environment designed and built before the previous supplier switched off its data services.

- Avoidance of downtime enabling the continuity of operations and uninterrupted customer service.

- Significant contractual savings on the Azure platform compared with the previous on-premise solution.

- A 'pay-as-you-go' service model, which allows for efficient cash flow management.

- The ability to trial new technology including the design and implementation of a business intelligence solution.

- The 14-day month end billing for the global business has been reduced to four days.

- As a result of the increased flexibility of the Azure solution, the client is more agile which means it can now take on additional projects.

> "An efficient, collaborative approach has meant we were able to move to the cloud quickly and avoid any negative impact when our previous data centre provider changed locations."
>
> IT Director

The Results Highlights

A reliable cloud solution enabling the company to work more flexibly and grow its business.	Significant contractual savings by moving from an on-premise solution to the cloud.	14-day billing period for the global business reduced to four days, helping improve cashflow.	A flexible OPEX payment solution making it easier to control costs.

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