

Case Study: Private Cloud Migration

THE CLIENT

Our client approached us, as they were unhappy with their existing service provider. They were seeking an IT partner that could, not only take full responsibility for their servers and applications but migrate them out of their office. Doing so would reduce running costs within the office, improve availability and reliability.

THE CHALLENGE

They had a specific desire to migrate their services to the cloud, consolidate their servers and in turn, reduce their data footprint and overall running costs. As some of their Servers were physical, the challenge for them was to identify a partner that could migrate their infrastructure to a cloud platform, whilst minimizing down time and mitigating data loss risk, but all at an affordable price.

We liaised with our client and carried out an extensive review of their IT infrastructure, finding 3 physical servers and 6 virtual servers all in use. Using the information gathered, and most importantly, focusing on our client's requirements, we formulated a migration plan which met all their needs.

THE SOLUTION

The solution involved establishing a diverse, secure and encrypted link between their office and our Virtual Private Cloud. All servers were replicated on an 'as is' basis to the VPC to ensure an initial copy of all data and servers was available as a baseline. Using our agnostic replication suite enabled us to replicate any server into our environment, regardless of its platform, OS or architecture.

Continuous replication allowed our client to continue working from their Office infrastructure, until the Cloud environment had been extensively tested and was ready for production workloads.

A suitable time was arranged with our client to shut down the office environment and direct all their workloads to the cloud environment. A detailed communications plan ensured our client was up-to-date at every critical part of the migration. The total planned downtime of 2 hours was achieved for the entire environment across the weekend.

Having an engineer onsite during the migration allowed us to test access to services from our client's office. We ensured an engineer was also onsite first thing Monday, giving them confidence that they could hit the ground running when they returned to work.

After the migration, we undertook a clean-up of their on-premise environment. We then liaised with our client to devise a server consolidation plan. Having the servers hosted on our Fundcloud platform enabled us to take snapshots of servers and produce a mirrored environment for testing, without disrupting the live environment. This enabled us to plan and implement the consolidation with downtime limited to an hour at most.

We delivered a project that provided our client all the benefits they wanted. The overall disruption to their business was limited, and the entire process was completed within 4 weeks.

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 08000 122 225

 info@tribeca-it.com

 www.tribeca-it.com

 16 Berkeley Street, London, W1J 8DZ