Minnesota Wild Scores With Infrastructure Refresh and New Disaster Recovery Solution

The client: The Minnesota Wild

Based in St. Paul, Minnesota, the Minnesota Wild is a professional NHL ice hockey team that competes in the West Division of the National Hockey League.

The challenge: Refresh aging storage and existing infrastructure to improve capacity and performance

For many years, the IT staff for the Minnesota Wild and the Xcel Energy Center has partnered with Insight to provide an array of managed services to support the team’s infrastructure, hardware, and network. The partnership has worked so well, in fact, that Insight has engaged in corporate sponsorship with the team and created a valued, reciprocal relationship.

Like many IT organizations, the Wild’s IT department continually juggles many responsibilities and addresses a wide range of needs with just a few staff members. In addition to meeting the team’s IT needs, the staff is also responsible for the facility where the team plays, which often hosts conventions and concerts. These events require IT to manage ticketing and purchasing systems, wireless bandwidth, and keep the venue’s systems up and running during live events attended by thousands of people. Engaging Insight to handle routine infrastructure and hardware maintenance, backup and data protection, cloud virtualization, network issues, and more, allowed the Wild’s IT team to do more with less and stretch in-house resources farther.

So, when the Wild’s aging legacy storage system began to exhibit capacity and performance challenges, the client didn’t hesitate to rely on its ongoing relationship with Insight to determine the best course of action.
The solution: A resilient, proven storage solution with Nutanix Hyperconverged Infrastructure

At our suggestion, the client decided to undergo a refresh using Nutanix® Hyperconverged Infrastructure (HCI). Resiliency is absolutely critical, given the live matches and events involved at the Wild’s facility, so Nutanix’s proven system and reliability appealed to the client. Furthermore, Nutanix’s HCI offers both the ability to grow and easy management for the client’s small in-house team.

In addition to improving resiliency and capacity, the Wild’s IT team also decided to deploy a backup and disaster recovery solution from Rubrik. By going with Rubrik, the client was able to optimize its existing investment in server hardware and avoid having to purchase a new HCI system for its disaster recovery site.

The benefits: A refreshed, modern infrastructure with ongoing Managed Services support

With the Nutanix and Rubrik® solutions in place and running, the Wild’s IT team has confidence in the capacity and performance of its infrastructure to meet the ongoing demands of live events.

Our team continues to provide the client with Managed Services, including monitoring the network’s router and switch environment, as well as the team’s wireless, firewall, compute capabilities, virtualization layer, Windows® OS, data protection, and storage. The Nutanix and Rubrik solutions are both supported by Insight’s OneCall program, giving the client additional peace of mind.