Regional Credit Union Implements State-of-the-Art Data Center to Support Expanding Business Needs

The client

The client is a regional federal credit union. Founded in the 1930s as the employee federal credit union for a large corporation, the company now has 15 branches that serve both consumers and businesses.

The challenge: Execute an IT transformation in conjunction with a corporate headquarters relocation

The company was preparing to move its corporate headquarters and wanted to design and build a new data center as part of the process. Its legacy infrastructure was no longer supporting the organization’s expanding business needs, and the client was looking to increase scalability and performance while lowering total cost of ownership.

The transition to the new data center would involve ensuring 24/7 online access for credit union members during the transition and a gradual shift from the old site to the new site, which posed a number of challenges. The client also wanted to review and revise their outdated IT governance program and security policies.

And, before work even commenced our team faced a tight deadline. The client required that we understand all the requirements, define the work, and produce a scope document and estimate within 30 days.

Industry:
Financial services

CDCT provided:
- Environment assessment and data classification using our SnapStart discovery engine
- Security policy definition
- Design and deployment of a greenfield modern data center including core and enterprise network, security, compute, storage, and data protection capabilities
- Redesign of VMware® virtualization environment
- Risk-mitigated migration
- Mobile app platform remediation
- Modern disaster recovery (DR) pod design with integrated cloud archive solution

CDCT services:
- Platform readiness assessment
- Consulting services
- Data center infrastructure design services
- Implementation
- Residency
The solution: A modern data center and risk-mitigated migration

The client originally engaged with a different services provider, and had been on the verge of closing a $2M deal to design their firewall infrastructure. Doubts led them to seek the help of Cloud + Data Center Transformation (CDCT).

First, we performed an in-depth assessment of the client’s environment including its infrastructure, mobile app, Active Directory®, Exchange®, and existing network using our proven methodology and SnapStart discovery engine. From there, we assisted with a comprehensive data classification initiative that would provide crucial information for the migration.

Based on our preliminary work, we designed and implemented a new state-of-the-art data center with advanced compute, storage, and network capabilities. This involved defining a new security and identity management policy, optimizing the way the client uses private cloud resources, and automating all of their IT processes, including those related to backup and disaster recovery. Lastly, we executed a data migration that accounted for approximately 500TB of data, 400 VMs, 750 users, and 88 applications. We also provided collaboration solutions and residency services to fill critical skills gaps.

The client ultimately went with CDCT over the competing provider because we were able to deliver customization and cost savings. Through our transformational methodology, we architected a solution that optimally leveraged existing technology and new PAN infrastructure that was “right fitted” to the client’s needs. The result was $2.75M in cost savings that the client could apply toward other strategic objectives or IT priorities.

The benefits: Enhanced performance, reliability, and security

With its advanced infrastructure and new security policy in place, the client now enjoys increased performance, improved member experience, greater system reliability, improved manageability, enhanced security, and an updated governance program. All of these advances will support the organization’s growth plans.

The client also has a new trusted technology partner in CDCT, having selected us for our expertise, skill set, certifications, methodology, responsiveness, agility, and investment value.