

"Team24 can focus more on core business and now enjoy the scalability to expand and shrink with minimum effort as and when we require"

Avin Talabani, Business Development Manager
Team24

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[Codestone Cloud & SystemSure Support]

Team24 Case Study

Project Summary

Client: Team24
Industry: Recruitment
Location: Banstead, England
Solution: Codestone Cloud & SystemSure

Key Benefits:

- High Availability
- Increased Security
- Disaster Recovery
- Lower Capital Costs
- Lower Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)
- Data Protection
- Faster Return on Investment (ROI)
- Managed Service
- Future Proof
- Environmentally Sound



Background

Team24 are a leading healthcare recruitment specialist which provides outstanding healthcare workers for a wide range of temporary placements, from doctors to specialist nurses across the NHS and private sectors. Their two offices are located in Banstead where they employ 60 staff.

The Challenge

Team24 were experiencing rapid growth and required a scalable, resilient and future-proof IT infrastructure that would accommodate their expanding requirements. Their legacy infrastructure comprised of 4 servers; a domain controller, an SQL Server which ran a bespoke industry specific application, a web server for customer records and a VoIP Server; all of which at the time required to be refreshed. The 60 staff based across the two sites also required access to industry standard applications Aspire and Tempaid5, as well as accounting package Sage Line 50.

As a 24x7 operation it was important for Team24 to eradicate any downtime which they had previously been experiencing when system maintenance was needed. They needed to ensure that in the event of a complete site loss, users were provided with the flexibility to work from any location on any machine; subject to current permissions and tight security restrictions being maintained.

The Solution

After consultation with Codestone's infrastructure experts an infrastructure as a service (IaaS) solution delivered by the "Codestone Cloud" was implemented; a more cost effective option to purchasing physical hardware and software.

Infrastructure as a service essentially uses a commoditised computing model, allowing organisations such as Team24 to pay only for the computing resource they use. This model also zeros both the software and hardware capital investment required to implement the very latest and best of breed software solutions.

Software and compute power is rented, giving the customer access to the latest versions of the applications and allows simple calculation of the maximum per-user costs. Once this figure is established, the customer can easily budget for and add new users as the business grows.

The Codestone Cloud platform is built using best of breed, Enterprise Class products from Citrix VMware and EMC. Owned and managed by Codestone, using no 3rd party infrastructure, the platform supports Windows and Linux environments.

The Codestone Cloud has Service Provider Agreements License ('SPLA') in place with many vendors, including Microsoft, VMware and Citrix, that allows Codestone to provide software licensing on a monthly subscription based model.

Users gain access to their centralised desktop using Citrix XenApp and Citrix Access Gateway, ensuring that, regardless of their location, they can always get fast and secure access (subject to company policies).

Wrapped around this Cloud solution is Codestone's managed services and support offering; SystemSure. This flexible product allows organisations to choose a level and scope of support to suit their operational needs; from a single application or device to a complete managed IT Service. Team24 selected SystemSure Total which provides a total piece of mind through pro active monitoring and scheduled maintenance, combined with a Gold Service Level Agreement (SLA).

Implementation

Codestone suggested a 3 stage implementation:

- Build the new Team24 infrastructure on the Codestone Cloud platform
- Migrate business systems and data to the new platform - Aspire, Galago, Sage Line 50, Tempaid5, Users and Data
- Implement a secure, remote access system including two-factor authentication

Before embarking on the migration the processes and project plan were agreed and signed off up front by Team24 and Codestone. Team24's Avin Talabani explained,

" We took comfort in the fact Codestone had a fully trained Prince 2 Project Management team who made sure that this project was delivered not only on time and to budget but also without any disruption to the day to day running of the business."

Benefits

As a result of migrating their infrastructure to the Codestone Cloud platform Team24 have realised the following benefits:

High Availability

The Codestone Cloud platform is built so that it has no single point of failure unlike an on premise "1 server per application" solution. The data centre itself has redundant power, cooling, bandwidth and fire suppression; giving Team24 unparalleled up time (99.9% guaranteed).

Security

The Codestone Cloud platform is delivered from a secure, purpose built data centre with state of the art access security.

Disaster Recovery

Team24's servers are accessible from any device, anywhere and over any connection, meaning critical services are still available in the event of a loss of the main business site and allowing full access for remote users.

Lower Capital Cost

All software and computing power was provided to Team24 as a manageable monthly service (Opex not Capex). Team24 also benefit from improved gearing as they now have fewer depreciating IT assets on their balance sheet.

Lower Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)

As Team24 negate the need for hardware and software upgrades a dramatically reduced TCO is achieved.

Data Protection

All Team24's application data is fully backed up on a daily basis as part of the managed services contract.

Faster Return on Investment (ROI)

Low capital cost means that Team24 start benefitting from the investment almost immediately.

Managed Service

SystemSure Total includes maintenance, back up and user support giving Team24 a "zero touch" solution.

Future Proof

Codestone Cloud will always deliver the latest versions of vendor software, resulting in Team24's infrastructure being future proof.

Environmentally Sound

Team24 have reduced their company carbon footprint by using Codestone Cloud which uses the latest energy saving hardware to reduce power and cooling costs.

In closing Avin commented,

"By utilizing the Codestone Cloud we now have a completely different attitude towards our IT infrastructure. What was once a resource heavy internal departmental function has turned into a low maintenance low cost high available monthly service. Team24 can focus more on core business and now enjoy the scalability to expand and shrink with minimum effort as and when we require"

For more information on how your organisation can benefit from utilising the Codestone Cloud Platform please contact us:

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