

A VOHKUS NETWORKING SOLUTION

THE BRAVE & BOLD

ENABLING THE 'POP UP' OFFICE

Microsoft®
GOLD CERTIFIED
Partner

Vohkus services:

Private cloud design, build and managed support service

Technologies used:

Network: Communication / unified comms

Data centre: Servers

Data centre: Software (virtualisation)

Industry:

Telecommunications

Business drivers:

Business agility / growth

Cost

Quality of service

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Azure Remote Desktop Services for telecoms firm

This client was a very early adopter of cloud technology. Its CEO's vision was to run the entire business without owning servers. Vohkus designed, built and manages its solution.

CHALLENGES

- ▶ Did not want expense or management overhead of traditional data centre.
- ▶ Required extreme flexibility to support 'pop up' offices.
- ▶ Wanted instant connection from any location.

SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Dissection of business operations to determine cloud strategy.
- ▶ Ground-up build and workflow.
- ▶ Managed service covering all support and network needs.

OUTCOMES

- ▶ 'Private cloud in public environment'
- ▶ Strong governance and data loss prevention.
- ▶ Instant system access and fast setup of temporary offices.

ABOUT VOHKUS

Vohkus delivers IT enabled business solutions and services, and is a trusted technology partner for both private and public sector clients, many of whom operate across the globe.

Our capability is end2end:
Consult >>> Design >>> Supply >>>
Deploy >>> Manage >>> Support

NETWORKING SOLUTIONS FROM VOHKUS

Vohkus can advise you on technologies to make employees more productive, to create more agile workspaces and better collaboration/conferencing facilities, to improve device and user security, and to enable seamless mobile working outside the office.

We work with the world's leading vendors from desktops to laptops, from tablets to phones, and from printers to video conferencing. We'll ensure your people are equipped to face the challenges of modern digital business.

Through our cloud arm, Meggha, we also provide related services such as desktop-as-a-service, managed Office 365 with optimised licensing, network management and much more to manage down costs and help you focus on higher-value activities.

Situation

The client is an independent owner and operator of wireless communications infrastructures, leased to mobile network operators. It has a portfolio of over 50,000 site locations, assembled through partnerships with sporting and farming organisations. The company has had a relationship with staff from Vohkus since being founded in 2006. The client's CEO had a clear vision of running the business on cloud technology. This would enable maximum flexibility so that the company could 'pop up' offices in any location where there might be a business opportunity. By using managed support, the firm would not need a traditional IT infrastructure and could focus on its core propositions.

The client considered cloud to be mature enough in 2010 to start adopting a consumption-driven approach, and since then Vohkus has helped it migrate all of its operations. This has effectively created a private cloud in a public environment, centred around Microsoft Azure Remote Desktop Services (RDS).

Migration components

Vohkus began by dissecting the client's business model to see what components would be suitable for migration, and in what timeframe. It defined the client's cloud strategy, based around sequential migration to Office 365, SharePoint and Azure, followed by integration of Salesforce. With clear governance and processes in place no major issues arose at any stage. Vohkus first upgraded Office on all the customer's laptops, and completed Office 365 mail and document migration. SharePoint was migrated onto Azure from Office 365, enabling check-in/check-out version control. The Azure service itself is a Windows replicated environment providing Office productivity tools, secure email, and access to the client's intranet.

Among the key features of the solution is that no local data is stored on individual laptops, removing the possibility of data loss. Vohkus subsequently added a cloud-based phone system, and a managed wireless network solution based on Cisco Meraki so that users could instantly connect from any location in the world. Aside from the client's main sites, pop up offices have been deployed in countries including the UK, Latvia, Australia and the United States; in every case all that was required was an internet connection. Vohkus has also added Skype for Business, enabling office-to-office conference calls and presence functionality. The client's training plans for Windows and Mac users can now be delivered via Skype for remote users.

Conclusion

The client's solution is arguably as close to 'pure' cloud as it is possible to get. It removed the need for data centre space and sprawl, and Vohkus's managed services and 24x7 support mean it does not have to carry the overhead of a large in-house IT team.

Because the solution has been built on standard technologies, any engineer from Vohkus is capable of immediately identifying and remediating any issues affecting service delivery and consistency.