Case Study

Cloud Migration to GCP

Hospitality Digital provides digitalization services to the hospitality sector. Its international team of experts implement a variety of digital solutions and innovations for hotels, restaurants, caterers, and trader businesses. The company relies on self-developed solutions as well as those from start-ups and other partners. Hospitality Digital is a subsidiary of Metro AG and was established in 2015.

HOSPITALITY DIGITAL SOUGHT TO:

- Migrate its infrastructure into Google Cloud Platform (GCP);
- Containerize its application workloads using GKE and AppEngine;
- Give its application access to a fully-automated application platform;
- Become 152-FZ compliant by building a separate infrastructure in StackGroup to store the data of its Russian customers.

REQUIREMENTS: EFFICIENCY AND REGIONAL COMPLIANCE

Hospitality Digital maintains several interconnected but independently developed and managed applications that complement each other to digitize the hospitality industry. It needed a cloud infrastructure that could scale alongside its growing operations and respond efficiently to fluctuations in demand. Hospitality Digital additionally wanted to automate as much of its infrastructure and application platform as possible in order to allow the technical team to trust the health of the platform being used and focus on application development.

Hospitality Digital needed a technology stack that could auto-scale, auto-provision, and be auto-redundant to deliver stronger business value. It wanted to migrate its application away from AWS and into GCP, whose regions were better suited to the business' delivery model. It needed to be mindful of compliance requirements, especially 152-FZ, a set of Russian privacy laws that requires the data of Russian persons be stored in Russia. Hospitality Digital therefore needed a cloud native, multi-cloud solution to sustain their digital transformation.

SERVICES: CLOUD ASSESSMENT AND MIGRATION

Hospitality Digital sought to leverage CloudOps' professional services to meet the growing and diverse needs of their technology stacks, beginning with a DevOps Platform and Practices Assessment (DPPA) that gave visibility into the tools and practices being used. A combination of consulting services and project-based deliverables followed.

CloudOps migrated Hospitality Digital's European infrastructure from AWS into GCP and leveraged Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE) to containerize workloads. CloudOps built a separate infrastructure in Russia to meet 152-FZ. Hospitality Digital was able to innovate its technology stacks in less time.

SOLUTION: A MODERNIZED INFRASTRUCTURE

Cloud Migration

GCP had regions that were more suited to Hospitality Digital's European data sovereignty requirements than AWS or Azure. Hospitality Digital therefore decided to migrate their infrastructure into GCP. This also allowed them to benefit from a few rich features, such as advanced object storage, Cloud CDN, load balancers, Google Container Registry, and CloudSQL.

Containerization

Containerization can dramatically increase the scalability, speed, and portability of an application. Hospitality Digital used GKE to this end as it integrates well with Google Cloud Storage, identity management, and other GCP services. As the original managed Kubernetes service in the market, GKE is the most mature offering and includes many advanced features for container orchestration, such as the automated upgrade and autoscaling of worker nodes through the administration portal and integrated cloud service features. By leveraging CloudOps' expertise, Hospitality Digital was able to access a containerized application platform above its GCP infrastructure.

Automation

CloudOps implemented extensive automation into the application platform, which it continues to manage for Hospitality Digital. This allows them to focus more on their software development and less on routine operations. With over fifteen years of industry experience, CloudOps' technical teams have access to a collective library of automation recipes and playbooks with technologies such as Terraform and Ansible. This wealth of knowledge translated to an automated application platform using a set of core building blocks.

Compliance

Hospitality Digital has some operations in Russia and is required to be compliant with 152-FZ, which mandates Russian data sovereignty for Russian individuals. Google Cloud Platform currently does not have a presence in Russia, nor do any other public cloud providers. Hospitality Digital therefore needed to augment its infrastructure in GCP with an on-prem solution hosted in Russia to manage all data specific to their Russian clients.

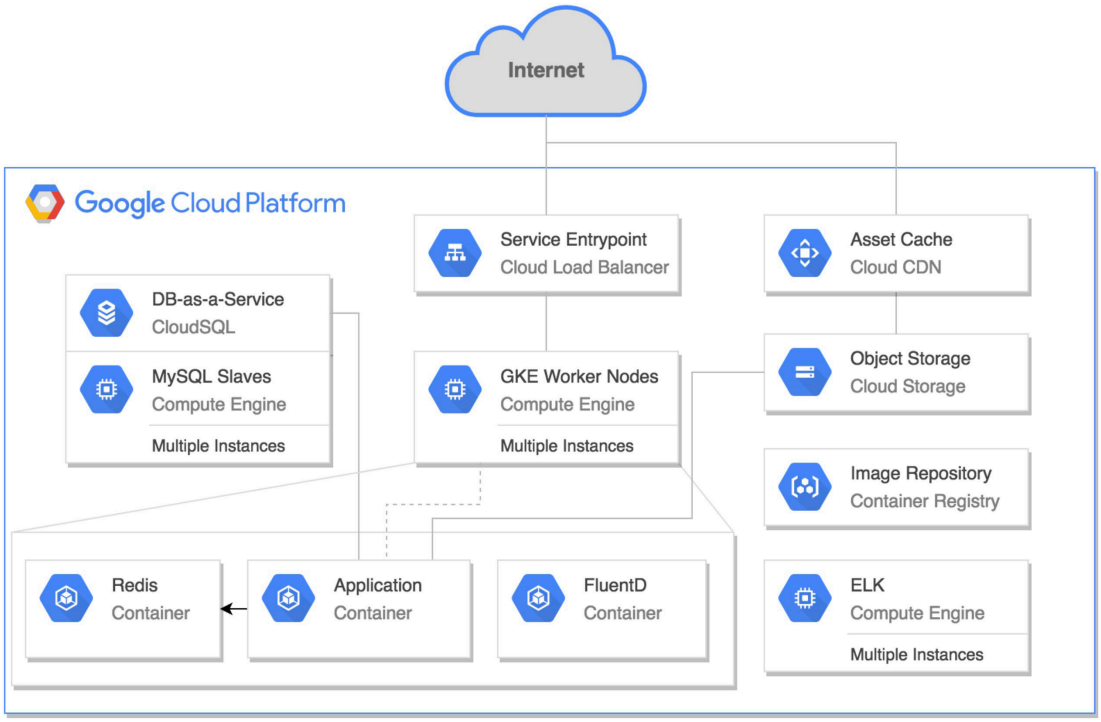
CloudOps helped Hospitality Digital leverage the services of StackGroup, a VMWare, CloudDirector-based provider that has a fully 152-FZ compliant environment in Russia. The geographic distance between the servers and our team caused timeouts and unreliable states, which CloudOps responded by manually automating integrations. This permitted Hospitality Digital to manage the data of its Russian customers alongside that of other customers, remaining 152-FZ compliant.

Security

CloudOps' support solutions are SOC 2 audited, meaning we understand the importance of security both for regulatory reasons and operational health. CloudOps was able to build a technology stack that has container security best practices ingrained into DevOps processes.

RESULT:

Hospitality Digital was able to relaunch their cloud infrastructure in GCP. The architecture can be seen in this diagram.



By leveraging CloudOps' services, Hospitality Digital was able to navigate the increasingly complex ecosystem of open source and cloud native tools and projects. It migrated its applications away from AWS and into GCP, containerized its workloads, implemented automation, and found a solution to retain data sovereignty for its Russian customers. It was able to increase the efficiency of the application platform, allowing its technical team to focus on application development.

Click here to learn more about how CloudOps can help you build and execute a cloud migration strategy that will modernize your application.

Contact us to find out if your organization is eligible for a free cloud migration.

With over fifteen years of experience working with open source, cloud platforms, networking, and DevOps, **CloudOps** is in a unique position to help businesses thrive in today's data-driven software economy. We help businesses successfully adopt and operate cloud platforms, taking advantage of self-service, utility economics and the API-automated, continuous delivery of IT. As a member of the Cloud Native Computing Foundation (CNCF) and the Linux Foundation Networking (LFN), CloudOps is actively involved in open source communities. CloudOps is also a Kubernetes Certified Service Provider (KCSP) and a Kubernetes Training Partner (KTP), providing consulting, training, and managed services for cloud native and DevOps practices and deployments.