

IAAS MICROSOFT AZURE CLOUD MIGRATION



Zones designed a scalable and cost-efficient cloud infrastructure for a distributor of motion control equipment.

A leading distributor of motion control equipment was struggling with its legacy on-prem data center. The infrastructure was aged, and several of their sites were having issues accessing corporate resources. The client was interested in migrating their data to an easily accessible cloud-based solution, so they contacted Zones.

Zones developed a comprehensive migration roadmap, including projected milestones and an estimated project timeline, and used that as a jumping-off point to design a Microsoft Azure infrastructure. Zones worked with the client every step of the way to complete the migration quickly and under budget. The new solution is robust, scalable, and the total cost of ownership is 25% less than the client was paying for the old system.



35 sites now have access to corporate resources.



25% reduced total cost of ownership.



Challenge

- The client was dealing with aging server, network, and storage infrastructure.
- Their inefficient infrastructure meant that 35 sites could not reliably access corporate resources.
- The client wanted to migrate to the cloud but was unable to do so on their own.



Solution

- Zones assessed the client's legacy infrastructure and provided a roadmap to cloud migration, including high-level objectives, projected milestones, and an estimated project timeline.
- Zones recommended that the client consider migrating to Microsoft Azure for increased control and visibility into current consumption expenses and better transparency into the cost of migration.
- Zones' engineering team designed a modern cloud-based infrastructure and assisted the client in migration, starting with a 21 server rehost from on-prem to Azure.



Results

- The new cloud-based data center solution is robust, scalable, and ready for future growth.
- All 35 of the client's sites are now connected across the cloud infrastructure to access and share resources easily.
- The cost of ownership is 25% less than it was in the previous environment.

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The Challenge

The client, a leading distributor of motion control equipment, struggled with their aging on-prem infrastructure, including server, network, and storage hardware. As their infrastructure aged, it was becoming less and less reliable, to the point where 35 of their sites had trouble reliably accessing corporate resources. The decision was made to migrate to the cloud, but they weren't able to make much headway without support from a reliable partner. After hearing of Zones' success stories in facilitating cloud migration for other companies in similar circumstances, the client reached out to perform an infrastructure assessment, with plans to have Zones assist with the migration if the evaluation went well.

The Solution

While Zones performed the assessment, they shared with the client best practices and options regarding standard migration methods, recommended migration strategies, and the advantages/disadvantages of each of these options.

As the outcome of this assessment, Zones provided a roadmap, high-level objectives, projected milestones, and an estimated timeline for the customer for complete migration. The key recommendation was to consider migrating to Microsoft Azure for multiple reasons, including increased control and visibility into current consumption expenses that would also provide better transparency into the cost of migration. The client appreciated Zones' assessment methodology and process and gave the okay to begin migration to an Azure platform.

Once Azure was settled on as the end solution, Zones' engineering team got to work building a modern, scalable, and cost-effective data environment. Once the architecture is complete, Zones also assisted in the migration itself, starting with a 21 server rehost from on-prem to Azure and finally to an MFA security implementation.

The Results

Thanks to Zones' efforts, the client's 35 sites are now fully connected across the cloud. Efficiency struggles and outages are a thing of the past, so team members can access the data they need when they need it. Plus, not only is the new solution more agile and streamlined than the legacy data center, but it's also saving the client money – the cost of ownership is 25% less than it was with the previous center.

“The client was impressed with the expertise and the technical capabilities Zones demonstrated throughout this project. They were pleased with the success of the migration and have since awarded Zones multiple additional projects. The client knows that when they contact Zones, they're getting the very best.”

– Solution Architect, Zones LLC

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