



## Case study

### Engineering

## Acquire and transform

Following a sizable acquisition, this customer set out on an ambitious transformation path to centralise, rationalise and refresh



### The customer

The customer is the UK's leading engineering support services company. They employ over 27,000 staff in 300 offices, with revenues of £3 billion p.a., managing £40b of assets across the globe.

They design, build, manage, operate and maintain assets that are vital to the delivery of many key public services, both in the UK and overseas, whilst working across many sectors, including defence, energy, telecommunications, transport and education.

### The challenge

This customer was a distributed organisation, which had successfully grown over time and acquired other companies in the process. They needed to address the issues of fragmentation and duplication which this growth had generated, as well as provide the business with the IT services and agility it needed to maintain its market leadership position.

This drove a strategic decision to transform and consolidate the infrastructure systems to a state-of-the-art standardised platform, managed by a central IT support team.

Some of the challenges faced included:

- A programme with many moving parts and condensed timeframes
- A highly distributed organisation with resource constraints and changes
- Critical timescales for site and service migration
- Strict security & compliance requirements

### The solution

Xtravirt was engaged as a leading independent solution provider for data centre transformation. Xtravirt acted as trusted advisor and architect for the new virtual infrastructure, including the technologies being implemented.

After completing a comprehensive discovery and sizing assessment which removed many unknown elements, design and build phases could be accelerated.

Working closely with the customer to design a leading edge, secure and compliant virtual infrastructure and, Xtravirt then fully integrated it onto a new data centre platform. The architecture seamlessly bought together virtual infrastructure, security, directory services, backup, disaster recovery, management and monitoring.

Xtravirt built and commissioned the infrastructure on time, and provided post-project support and knowledge transfer to ensure steady state was maintained until the programme drew to completion.

Other project responsibilities included:

- Definition and authoring of the policy and governance for the virtual infrastructure platform
- Designing a new test and development environment, leveraging DR capabilities
- Definition and delivery of key transformation processes
- Multi-site migration activities

## Project at a glance



### Requirements

- Discover, assess and design a virtual infrastructure using the latest proven cutting edge technology
- Build scalable production datacentres to become the core enterprise IT infrastructure across the business
- Create standardised server deployment templates
- Ensure integrated business continuity (BC) and disaster recovery (DR)
- Allow rapid scalability throughout the transformation programme and beyond
- Complete application/service migrations for several hundred systems with low business impact

### Solution

- HP servers, EMC storage and VMware vSphere platform, Commvault backup/archive, Microsoft SCOM, Veeam Management Pack
- vSphere HA business continuity and VMware SRM disaster recovery

### Results

- State-of-the-art data centre transformation
- 40% reduction in overall data centre footprint
- 30% saving for deployment time of new systems together with improved recovery times



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### Consultant commentary

“One of our key objectives was to underwrite our role as the safe pair of hands for this complex transformation, and this was proven by the robustness of our enterprise level virtual infrastructure which underpinned many other moving parts in the project.”

**Craig Whelan**, Engagement Manager, Xtravirt

## The results



- Assessment and design of a scaleable virtual infrastructure solution which satisfied stringent security requirements
- Deployment and commissioning of virtual infrastructure over 2 new centralised data centres, hosting production, test/development and DR services
- Centralised and integrated monitoring of virtual infrastructure platforms to Microsoft System Center
- Definition and delivery of policy manuals for governance of the virtual infrastructure platform together with tailored operation manuals
- Consolidation and on-schedule migration from a legacy data centre using the structure Passport methodology

### About Xtravirt

Xtravirt is a leading, independent provider of enterprise virtualisation solutions. We deliver data centre, workspace and cloud transformational solutions to clients across public and private sectors, both in the UK and internationally.

Our consulting organisation is recognised globally for contributions to industry and community development which, combined with our astute management, methodology and proven track record, provide unsurpassed value to our customers.

Please visit our case study library at [xtravirt.com](http://xtravirt.com) where you can read more of our success stories.

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