Case Study

Plastics Recycling Company Upgrades to a New Facility AND a New Server-Free Cloud Computing Environment

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Established in 2001, Geo-Tech is the nation's leading supplier of recycling solutions that transform plastics waste into high-quality, environmentally friendly products. With two plant locations in the NE Ohio region, Geo-Tech processes 20 million to 30 million pounds of recycled plastics per year. By keeping waste out of landfills and pollution out of the air, Geo-Tech's innovative processes provide manufacturers a new way to sustain both their financial bottom line and the communities they serve.

Time for an Upgrade

In keeping with the innovative, environmentally-focused company's mission, CEO Sanjay Dutta decided that when the time came to upgrade Geo-Tech's Waverly plastics recycling facility, it also might be the right time to upgrade and streamline the company's IT network. After consulting with Harry Bhatia, President of Net Activity, Inc., the decision was made to move to Microsoft's Azure cloud platform, which along with an Office 365 migration, offers Geo-Tech a totally server-free IT environment.

"The time for this change just seemed right for us." Dutta says. "We work with best-of-breed scientists and employees located all around the world, with clients based all over as well, and we just need to be able to work in an easy, reliable IT environment. What I was really looking for is a network that doesn't require any functionality within the plant...a completely cloud-based system. Net Activity is my go-to resource on strategizing about these decisions, so when they suggested this solution might be perfect for our business model, I said let's go for it."

Delivering on a Rock-Solid Microsoft Azure Migration

Net Activity recommended migration to Microsoft's cloud-based Azure, moving Geo-Tech's legacy on-premise Exchange Server to Office 365 and moving all databases and applications to the Microsoft Azure platform. Azure redundant servers will ensure that Geo-Tech's data is safe in the event of any unforeseen hardware failures, providing an extra layer of security. This also gives the company the added benefit of added scale in the cloud, without needing to add any physical infrastructure.

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"The migration process was easier than I expected," says Dutta. "We had a day scheduled for the primary migration process so we were ready for any outages... but the disruption to our employees and data was minimal. And of course, the Net Activity team was with us every step of the way."

Providing a Powerful ROI with "IT in A Box"

Working in tandem with an upgrade to Azure, Net Activity implemented Geo-Tech's migration to its signature product known as "IT in a Box." This comprehensive suite of products and services includes Office 365, Outlook/Exchange email and One Drive storage with 1TB disk space included for each company user.

The "IT in a Box" product applies security features such as HD encryption, ransomware protection, anti-virus/anti-spam and remote wiping included in the solution package. What really makes the service work is it's migration to a Microsoft Teams environment, which brings everything together in one hub–chats, calls, meetings, and private and group messages specific to projects. It enables the Geo-Tech team to share applications like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote, as well as calendars, files and email–all seamlessly and in real-time.

Today, Geo-Tech's employees can upload data and collaborate with others quickly, reliably and securely thanks to Azure and Teams. This integration allows for more efficiency and with a sophisticated, remote workforce, the Office 365 mobile apps are a critical feature. Best of all, it really pulls together CEO Dutta's primary goal: building a network infrastructure that didn't require any on-premise functionality at all.

One of the newest features of the Teams suite is access to dedicated phone systems that integrate fully with the Microsoft product and the user's workspace. "Using a Teams phone has really changed the ease with which I can communicate with my customers and employees. I can run meetings, video-chat and more...and overall the cost benefits with this changeover has been fabulous. As Harry has said, I'll never need to purchase a server again."

True. Almost immediately after the implementation, Geo-Tech experienced tangible, meaningful cost savings. Additionally, the removal of their physical server decreased support and maintenance costs associated with physical hardware, ultimately reducing and eliminating electrical, environmental and maintenance costs.

A True Partnership

Dutta noted "The Net Activity team has really taken the time to work with us to develop a long-term strategy utilizing the Azure and Teams platforms, and helped determined how to leverage it the best for our needs. The truth is, we've developed a full- fledged strategic partnership with Net Activity. They've become our trusted advisor for all our IT needs."

Is your business looking to better manage your technology?

Contact the experienced professionals at Net Activity
today at 216-503-5150 or info@netactivity.us