QA Software saves money by switching to powerful upgraded hosting solution

iomart

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iomart customer case study

iomart provides powerful platform to host QA Software's information management software

industry

AEC, Utilities and Energy

Objective

Migrate and upgrade hosting solution

Solution

An upgraded platform combining speed of application, SQL data base, resilience and disaster recovery

Benefits

- Estimated savings of £30,000

- Flexible Service Level Agreement

- Optimised web server and storage management

- A solution to meet all QA Software's requirements

QA Software develops information management solutions for the Architectural, Engineering and Construction (AEC), Utilities and Oil & Gas industries. The Software as a Service industry leader has worked on thousands of projects world-wide and its UK office in London is supported by a strong research and development team and a network of international resellers throughout Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Australia.

QA Software provides a full range of products to accommodate the needs of all projects, large or small, providing collaborative (Web-based) and in-house (LAN-based) solutions. Its TeamBinder solution provides document control services via the Cloud to hundreds of users across multiple projects. The project data QA Software hosts for clients' construction projects is mission critical to the company and its partners.

A change of host

QA Software wanted to move from its existing hosting provider because its platform was coming to the end of its life. The successful and growing company needed a fully upgraded and more powerful solution combining speed of application and SQL data base, resilience and capacity, with disaster recovery. QA Software went to market and picked iomart for the mix of managed and colocation services it needed based on a combination of cost, flexibility, 100% uptime and proximity.

Brian Dodsworth, Managing Director of QA Software, says, "iomart was the obvious choice for us. They were very competitive on price, the technical support and sales teams absolutely understood our requirements and iomart's London data centre was ideally located for our needs. The flexible service level agreement meant we could use the service efficiently and it has resulted in a significant cost saving. We believe we will have saved in excess of £30,000 by switching our hosting to iomart over the initial three years of our contract."

Powerful solution

The QA Software solution includes dedicated HP DL360 G7 Web/App servers with Intel Xeon Dual 6-core L5640 @ 2.26GHz CPU, 8GB RAM, RAID Controller, Redundant PSU

2x 600GB 3G SAS 10krpm 2.5" Quick-Release HDD (RAID 1). The SAN is used as the storage destination for the platform with the NAS as the colocated backup solution. These sit behind a managed Cisco ASA 5505 Firewall.

iomart provides a comprehensive server management and support service to ensure that the platform performs optimally at all times. At the heart of this is iomart's Advanced Monitoring Service. This minimises downtime by identifying potential issues and uses deep system monitoring that goes much further than standard checks.

Server management includes 24/7/365 access to telephone support; a helpdesk ticketing system, email support; server and service monitoring; hardware fix; and 100% uptime on infrastructure. The monitoring services include standard ICMP ping and port monitoring; CPU load; and RAM and Hard Disk usage.

Paul Stuart, Head of IT for QA Software, explains, "With the assistance of iomart's technical team we were able to design and implement a solution that met all of our requirements. We revised the solution a number of times to optimise the setup of our web servers and storage solutions. iomart assisted every step of the way, even as we sought to reduce costs. What we have with iomart provides us with the ability to continue to deliver projects successfully to our clients."

Cost Savings

QA Software has highlighted significant cost savings - £30,000 over the three years - as one of the key benefits of its move to iomart.

Brian Dodsworth says, "In today's financial climate, which has had a strong impact on the UK construction industry, these cost savings are really important as this is money that has been freed up for us to invest in other parts of the business."

Another key benefit for QA Software is the central London location of the iomart data centre which allows staff easy access to their racks.

Paul Stuart comments, "The transition to iomart was very smooth and the team who worked with us were accommodating and helpful throughout the migration. We experienced no downtime or problems during implementation."

Secure and reliable

The full upgrade, redesign and migration of the QA Software platform was completed in four weeks.

As a result of the move to iomart QA Software has been able to concentrate on delivering the highest quality document control services via the Cloud to customers around the world.

Brian Dodsworth says, "QA Software relies on iomart's secure server, disaster recovery and no downtime guarantee to reduce risk across all projects. This is the key aspect of our business, to ensure reliability for our customers, and iomart helps us deliver it to the highest standards."

For more information about QA Software visit **www.qasuk.com**