Anderson IT Management

Anderson IT Management Builds World-Class Hosting Platform with Pivot3 Hyperconverged Infrastructure

PIVOT3 CASE STUDY
Hyperconverged Infrastructure for Private Cloud

INDUSTRY
Technology Consultancy, Cloud Service Provider

LOCATION
Nottingham, United Kingdom

KEY CHALLENGES

- Rapid growth of cloud hosting business required agile infrastructure
- Ability to scale performance and capacity as needed
- Maximize ROI through higher efficiency IT infrastructure
- Tight integration with strategic technology partners VMware and Veeam

SOLUTION
Pivot3 vSTAC Hybrid HCI nodes

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- 2x increased density compared to traditional server/SAN solutions
- 80-85% storage capacity utilization
- Flexible, on-the-fly scalability that supports rapid business growth
- Higher levels of resiliency to support customer SLAs and uptime requirements
- High performance and increased usable capacity at scale

About the Customer

UK-based Anderson IT Management delivers secure, efficient and cost-effective computing solutions that are essential for the modern business. The company's expertise enables them to offer advice and help design and deliver IT Infrastructures that are efficient, private and secure. Anderson IT focuses its solutions on reducing cost, lowering risk and keeping data safe for its clients. The company works in various sectors of industry, including financial services, news and media, graphics and design, and pharmaceuticals.

The Challenge

Anderson IT Management recently added private cloud infrastructure services to its portfolio of customized data protection and managed services. The private cloud offering allows the company to host customer business services, run backup and business continuity operations from geographically distributed locations, and host virtual desktops for flexible working environments.

Traditionally, the firm relied on a legacy server/SAN-based infrastructure to support its clients. However, when the team began evaluating infrastructure solutions for their private cloud offering, they decided to investigate alternatives to the server/SAN model. "Simple deployment and rapid scalability were two critical factors in our evaluation," said David Anderson, founder and CEO of Anderson IT Management. "Because our private cloud offering is ramping up, we needed to start small, scale quickly and have control over how we scale. We needed an infrastructure that could grow with our business."

Ease of management, performance and resiliency were also key requirements for Anderson IT's ideal hosting platform. Plus, he needed a solution that would tightly integrate with VMware's virtual server and virtual desktop solutions, as well as Veeam's cloud backup solution.

The Solution

After reviewing competitive solutions, Anderson IT chose Pivot3 as the foundation for his cloud hosting platform. The Pivot3 HCI appliances support a variety of Anderson IT's offerings, including VDI, backup services and virtual server hosting.

Pivot3's distributed scale-out architecture aggregates all storage and compute resources into a common pool available to all virtual machines, which enables the platform to support 4X the number of virtual machines as traditional infrastructures. The advanced fault tolerance and high availability of the platform maintains performance during degraded mode conditions, which means Anderson IT can guarantee performance SLAs to their customers and support backup and disaster recovery operations even during failure events.

Additionally, the vSTAC operating environment consumes less than 10 percent overhead, which leaves more system resources for VMs and applications, extending the ROI and allowing Anderson IT to run more VMs per node. To deliver the on-the-fly scalability required to meet the demands of their rapidly growing cloud service, Anderson IT can linearly scale caching, bandwidth and IOPS, along with storage efficiency and capacity, simply by adding nodes to the cluster.

The Results

Pivot3's underlying architecture allows Anderson IT to easily control how they scale out their customer's IT environments. Upon deployment, the solution begins delivering value without disruption to the broader IT environment. "I needed something that was simple to scale and that delivered a very high level of resiliency. Our clients rely on us to keep them up and running at all times, and we are committed and accountable to their high standards and requirements," said David Anderson. "Pivot3 has provided us a high performance, highly available infrastructure platform that meets our high expectations. Plus, it was very quick and non-disruptive to deploy and scale."

Anderson IT also benefits from the efficiency of Pivot3's extremely lean operating environment. Because vSTAC consumes so few system resources, Anderson IT can run more revenue-generating VMs per node and support more of the applications that power their clients' business success. In addition to increased VM density, Anderson IT is able to achieve 80—85% capacity utilization, which is a significant improvement over their legacy server/SAN infrastructure. By decreasing overall datacenter footprint, Anderson IT can do more with less, and buy only what they need as they scale storage and compute to meet specific end-user workload requirements.

Anderson IT also saw reduced administrative time and improved productivity with the platform's converged management of compute, storage and VMs. Since Pivot3 automates systems management with capabilities that are self-optimizing, self-healing, and self-monitoring, IT teams spend less time firefighting and more time focusing on aligning objectives to real-world business results. Pivot3's seamless integration with VMware via the Pivot3 vCenter plugin delivers intelligent management with a single-pane-of-glass that simplifies Anderson IT's management of single and multi-site deployments.

"The Pivot3 technology and partnership has allowed us to take our business offering to the next level," said David Anderson. "We have the utmost confidence in the system's resiliency, and we encourage our customers to visit our datacenter and see the performance and uptime advantages of our Pivot3 platform. Our customers know they can trust us to support their businesses, and we know we can trust Pivot3 to support ours."

CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL

"Our clients rely on us to keep them up and running at all times, and we are committed and accountable to their high standards and requirements. Pivot3 has provided us a high performance, highly available infrastructure platform that meets our high expectations. Plus, it was very quick and non-disruptive to deploy and scale."

– David Anderson, founder and CEO

About Pivot3

Pivot3 improves the simplicity and economics of the enterprise datacenter with industry-leading hyperconverged infrastructure technology. By combining storage, compute, and networking on commodity hardware, Pivot3 provides software-defined platforms that let IT run multiple, mixed application workloads on a single infrastructure while guaranteeing performance to the applications that matter most. Pivot3's agile infrastructure solutions extend performance, scale and efficiency across more of the datacenter so customers can keep pace with the demands of modern business. With over 2,400 customers in 54 countries and 18,000 hyperconverged deployments in multiple industries such as healthcare, government, transportation, security, entertainment, education, gaming and retail, Pivot3 is redefining HCI with smarter infrastructure solutions.

For more information, visit Pivot3.com