Altrecht slashes TCO with HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged solution

IT staff now free to work on strategic tasks to grow Dutch mental healthcare’s business

Objective
Refresh IT infrastructure, reduce total cost of ownership, and simplify operations.

Approach
Perform a five-year TCO analysis and look at several converged infrastructure solutions that were also scalable.

IT Matters
• Massive consolidation: Eight racks of legacy equipment replaced by two racks of HPE SimpliVity systems
• Simplified operations; IT staff freed up to work on strategic tasks to grow the business
• Major storage capacity savings; 641 TB of logical data consumes less than 33 TB of disk space
• Rapid and efficient data protection; backup and recovery in minutes compared to hours

Business Matters
• 38% five-year TCO savings compared to Microsoft Azure alternative
• 69% five-year TCO savings compared to Nutanix alternative

Introduction
Altrecht, a leading Dutch mental healthcare provider, replaced its disjointed multivendor IT implementation with a Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) SimpliVity hyperconverged infrastructure. The HPE SimpliVity solution ensures high performance and resiliency for the healthcare provider’s critical applications—including a XenApp end-user computing implementation supporting over 1500 concurrent users—while significantly reducing equipment and operations expenses.

Business Challenge: Data Center Modernization and Consolidation

Like many healthcare providers in the Netherlands and around the world, Altrecht is continuously seeking innovative ways to reduce IT expenses in light of shrinking budgets and growing government regulations. The provider’s legacy IT environment—a mix of Dell servers and EMC Clarion storage systems—was running out of capacity and approaching end-of-life.

After investigating a number of potential alternatives, Dieter Van Grinsven, Altrecht’s ICT manager, selected HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged infrastructure for the provider’s next-generation IT implementation.

“We did a five-year TCO analysis and looked at Microsoft Azure as well as hyperconverged solutions from HPE SimpliVity and Nutanix,” recalls Van Grinsven. “The HPE SimpliVity...
“The HPE SimpliVity solution was significantly less expensive from a TCO perspective. Azure and Nutanix would have cost up to 38% and 69% higher, respectively.”

– Dieter Van Grinsven, manager ICT, Altrecht

HPE SimpliVity Solution

HPE SimpliVity provides a scalable, modular building block of x86 resources that delivers all the functionality of traditional IT infrastructure in a single device, with a unified administrative interface. Altrecht deployed 18 HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged nodes in a new colocation facility, replacing eight racks of legacy systems with just two racks of HPE SimpliVity equipment. The implementation is remotely monitored and supported by Lemontree, Altrecht’s trusted IT advisor and solution provider. “Lemontree’s experience with HPE SimpliVity and the HPE SimpliVity-based service offering was the clincher,” adds Van Grinsven.

Benefits

The HPE SimpliVity solution provides superior performance and availability for Altrecht’s critical applications, while eliminating equipment sprawl and operational complexity.

“The HPE SimpliVity platform greatly reduced our IT footprint,” explains Van Grinsven. “That was extremely important since we were moving into a colo facility and paying for space and power.”

“The HPE SimpliVity product is also incredibly easy to administer,” adds Van Grinsven. “Our IT team spends less time managing infrastructure, and more time supporting users and working on new business functionality.” With HPE SimpliVity’s VM-centric user interface, IT generalists can clone, backup, move and restore VMs with just two or three mouse clicks using VMware vCenter. And with HPE SimpliVity’s inherent data efficiencies VMs are backed up and recovered in minutes compared to hours with the previous Commvault data protection solution.

Thanks to HPE SimpliVity and Lemontree, Altrecht now enjoys a state-of-the-art IT implementation that delivers outstanding reliability, agility and economics.

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