



Samen ICT voor onderwijs

AXEZ ICT SOLUTIONS HARNESSSES HPE NIMBLE STORAGE AND HPE SYNERGY TO BUILD CUTTING-EDGE DATA CENTER

Provide cost-effective, secure, compliant digital services to educational IT cooperative KIEN U.A.

Industry

Public Sector and Education

Objective

Equip educational IT cooperative with flexible, high-performance platform needed to support classroom IT

Approach

Design new data center and migrate existing applications onto HPE Nimble Storage and HPE Synergy platform

IT matters

- Deduplication, compression cut data footprint by 50%
- Number of physical nodes reduced from 12 to 6
- Deployment, migration done in only three months

Business matters

- Zero business disruptions since implementation
- Efficient use of storage capacity supports cost-effective future growth
- Easier management frees engineers for high-value tasks



When KIEN U.A., a 10-member educational IT cooperative in The Netherlands, needed a new data center, it engaged HPE Partner AXEZ ICT Solutions. AXEZ designed and implemented a new environment running on HPE Nimble Storage and HPE Synergy, which delivered improved performance, increased capacity, and easier management.

Today's educational institutions are heavily dependent on information technology—which means educators must find ways to implement effective IT systems without breaking their budgets.

Within the South Holland region of The Netherlands, educators addressed this challenge by forming KIEN U.A., a 10-member educational IT cooperative. KIEN's centralized data center enables 30,000 users from 100 different locations to access IT resources via cost-effective lease agreements. Its flagship service, My Digital

School, provides device-independent learning through a secure, compliant, cloud-like delivery model. The cooperative also provides help desk and IT support services and promotes IT literacy for school employees.

But six years after KIEN's formation, its IT systems needed a refresh. So KIEN approached HPE Platinum Converged Infrastructure partner AXEZ ICT Solutions to design and implement a new, cutting-edge IT platform featuring HPE Nimble Storage and HPE Synergy systems.

“We determined that the HPE Nimble and HPE Synergy solutions would be an excellent fit for KIEN’s needs, in terms of both price and functionality. We were so confident the HPE solution would succeed, we offered our data center design and migration services under a fixed-price guarantee.”

– René van Dop, Director, AXEZ

KIEN U.A. achieves zero business disruptions thanks to HPE Nimble Storage and HPE Synergy



FLEXIBILITY, CAPACITY, AND PERFORMANCE

Several requirements guided KIEN as it began to plan its data center upgrade. KIEN’s members, which range from childcare centers and primary schools to colleges, each have their own educational missions, policies, and applications. KIEN’s IT systems must be both reliable and flexible enough to accommodate these disparate requirements. Collectively, KIEN’s members generate many terabytes of data. Its data center must be sized to handle peak loads, including scenarios where tens of thousands of users need access to their data at the same time, for example, on Monday mornings when a new school week begins. In addition, KIEN must be prepared for future growth.

A NEXT-GENERATION VISION

At first, KIEN assumed its path forward was to upgrade its existing systems—HPE BladeSystem blade servers—on a one-to-one basis. But the experts at AXEZ encouraged KIEN to consider HPE Nimble Storage and HPE Synergy. “Our analysis suggested these solutions would be an excellent fit for their needs, in terms of both price and functionality,” says René van Dop, Director, AXEZ.

AXEZ was so confident that KIEN would benefit by the HPE systems that it offered to perform the design and migration of the new data center on a fixed-price basis. “We are convinced of the quality of the HPE technology,” notes van Dop. “We did not hesitate to offer that guarantee.”

Following a successful proof of concept, KIEN agreed to the AXEZ recommendations. AXEZ deployed a team of engineers, which completed the migration in a swift three months.

ENHANCED PERFORMANCE, SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS

The new platform quickly delivered on its promised value. AXEZ sized the HPE Nimble Storage platform, for example, with a capacity of 60 TB. However, thanks to HPE Nimble Storage’s automated deduplication and compression, KIEN’s current environment—40 TB of applications and data—was reduced immediately to 20 TB. “This gives KIEN extra capacity, which enhances their system performance and gives them the scalability they need as they grow,” says van Dop, adding that it took only a week for his team to complete the deployment.

HPE Synergy also delivered significant benefits, enabling KIEN to halve the number of physical nodes in its data center, from 12 to six. This delivers significant savings in physical space and power consumption, while greatly increasing performance.

Marco de Jong, IT Architect, KIEN, praises the value KIEN gained from HPE InfoSight. This technology’s predictive maintenance system, powered by artificial intelligence signals, predicts and rectifies any malfunctions, even before users notice that something went wrong. As a result, de Jong notes, “We have not had a single disruption since we implemented the new platform. Everything works super fast. Management of the environment has become much easier. KIEN engineers are very enthusiastic about the solution.”



Case study

KIEN

Industry

Public Sector and
Education

“We have not had a single disruption since we implemented the new platform. Everything works super fast. And managing the environment has become much easier.”

– Marco de Jong, IT Architect, KIEN

Customer at a glance

Solution

Data center for hosting digital services for 10-member educational cooperative

Hardware

- HPE Nimble Storage
- HPE Synergy

Software

- HPE InfoSight

As it looks back on its successful KIEN engagement, AXEZ gives enormous credit to its partnership with HPE. “When you have a clear focus on one brand, you build deep knowledge and experience that you can draw on to help your clients,” van Dop explains. “Migrating to a completely new platform required KIEN to embrace change, but as our experience demonstrates, the innovative solutions from HPE also deliver immediate returns.”

“The HPE vision fits in seamlessly with our own vision.”

– René van Dop, Director, AXEZ

LEARN MORE AT

hpe.com/us/en/integrated-systems/synergy.html

hpe.com/us/en/storage/nimble.html

Make the right purchase decision.
Contact our presales specialists.



Chat



Email



Call



Get updates


**Hewlett Packard
Enterprise**

© Copyright 2020 Hewlett Packard Enterprise Development LP. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The only warranties for Hewlett Packard Enterprise products and services are set forth in the express warranty statements accompanying such products and services. Nothing herein should be construed as constituting an additional warranty. Hewlett Packard Enterprise shall not be liable for technical or editorial errors or omissions contained herein.

a50001044ENW, April 2020