



CASE STUDY

Centrally Managed VM and Backup Platform

Founded by William Lamb in 1887 In the Yorkshire town of Wakefield, William Lamb Group grew to become the largest clog maker in Europe. From producing boots and gas mask cases to support Britain in WW1, to pioneering the modern football boot in the 1950s.

The company were amongst the first to recognise the potential of the 'trainer', expanded their supply chain globally to keep its competitive edge and developed ethical practices before they were fashionable.

With on-the-ground teams in India, China and Vietnam, William Lamb Group have a global production network that guarantees they can create and deliver the best products.



WILLIAM
LAMB
GROUP | SINCE
1887



NUTANIX[®]

The IT Environment

Prior to the arrival of the new IT Director the IT network had not been updated for approx. 10 years. There were different makes of switches that were daisy chained together and single switches in all areas that offered no redundancy.

The Wi-Fi didn't function properly, only covered the main building and offered no guest access. The perimeter security was non-existent and there was no centralised management.

All servers and storage were onsite with a mix of old physical servers some running Windows server 2012 and VM's on ESXi hosts. Backups were done daily and to tape, with the backup restore taking 20+ hours and also backup in progress had to be stopped to restore. The main ERP Solution also had a replication environment in the Hong Kong that supported the Far East offices.

The Challenges

Main issues were response time of the servers, high support costs, long recovery times for deleted files and the unreliable replication environment.

Our customer needed a new consolidated VM environment that has intelligence to move VM's around multiple hosts to maximise space and help reduce costs. Not a "T-shirt" size model, the model that would allow them to have the flexibility to dictate what size VM's they want and to be charged accordingly. The ability to dynamically flex the resources without being constrained by constant contract changes (pay for the monthly use). Low latency, best of class processors and tiered storage that helps keep costs under control for hot and cold storage requirements.

The ability to have a self-serve environment to pay for resource and then spin up and manage VM's as you need them. A backup platform that can Snapshot, Mirror and back up to the RPO and RTO, that they could stipulate and also offers the service to restore full VMs or file level retrieval with an option to restore that to a location specified by the customer.

The Solution

Conrac's Nutanix Clusters with VM back up going to a Hycu cluster, connected by a high throughput resilient Mellanox switch stack.

The Outcomes

The IT team at William Lamb Group can now see and centrally manage all their VMs and subsequent backups, they can see a dashboard showing VM performance. The solution can match tickets raised for poor response to incidents on a VM, and if it is not down to VM performance, then it allows them to fault find quicker-which leads to the quicker resolution of tickets. The IT team also have access to the back up self-serve portal, so they can restore files quickly and due to Hycu's ability to create a full backup from Snapshots. They are now having the ability (if a VM ever got attacked by Malware) to restore a full VM within minutes and then copy the attacked VM to a sandbox environment to allow for forensic analysis.

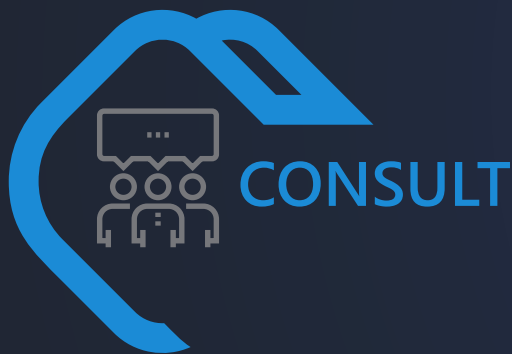


Successful Projects are the Results of Great Partnership

Every success starts with development. The ability to create a trusted partnership is one of the most important aspects to assure an ongoing, stable implementation of the project goals, reduction of waste of resources and budget, and an overall decrease in the risk of failing.

At Contrac, we help our customers to deliver their IT projects within the time frame and effectively. Our company structure is made to be an integral part of the team so we are able to provide dedication and personalisation.

To differentiate stages of our customers' project needs and to assure the best delivery journey, we offer three unique areas of our professional services:



FIND OUT HOW WE CAN HELP YOU
DELIVER YOUR IT PROJECTS