



CUSTOMER STORY

APPLICATION MIGRATION STRATEGY FOR WINDOWS

Analysing applications and exploring options to exploit cloud technology as part of Windows 2008 migration

SERVICES

- Cloud Platform Strategy
- Application Migration Assessment
- Cloud Management Tools Advisory Service
- Marketplace Software Sourcing Platforms
- Cloud Enterprise Foundations
- Cloud Optimisation Services
- Workload Migration Services
- VMware Cloud on AWS and Azure

USER EXPERIENCE

- Enhances agility and mobility
- Maximises efficiency
- Improves performance

BUSINESS IMPACT

- Accelerates innovation
- Boosts business agility
- Strengthens competitive advantage
- Enriches customer experience
- Reduces costs
- Supports digitalisation

OBJECTIVE

Faced with the challenge of remediating their Windows 2008 Server applications, which went out of support in January 2020, Kellogg's needed an IT partner to help them evaluate their current environment, analyse their existing applications, and identify opportunities to migrate eligible applications and services to the cloud,

In addition, advice on tools, technology and infrastructure best-suited to their cloud needs was required, along with the development of a cloud strategy aimed at transforming their environment of the future.

SOLUTION

Computacenter was engaged by Kellogg's to address all the objectives and challenges defined above through its Application Migration Assessment Service. This service was tailored to deliver the appropriate environment evaluation and application analysis, which led to the creation of an appropriate Windows 2008 Server eradication strategy with opportunities for cloud migration – which was adapted to suit the Kellogg's organisation.

OUTCOME

Computacenter has successfully delivered a solid, strategic plan for migrating the customer's applications and infrastructure away from Windows Server 2008 and, where appropriate, to a cloud platform. Computacenter were flexible and adapted their solutions to fit in with the structures and competing demands within Kellogg's. The solution is also sustainable, thus meeting Kellogg's long-term goals.

Kellogg's are now looking at their applications in a different way, challenging their thinking and building a strategic view as opposed to an independent application view. Other short-term wins have been realised, such as access to previously untapped data which is now being used within their CMDB and baselines.





There was an opportunity here, to really validate what type of applications we have out there and what the strategy should be for each of them."

Stephanie Roddy,
IT Director, Corporate Business
Solutions, Kellogg's



We were looking at opportunities to exploit cloud technology, and to move our applications hosted on Windows 2008 to a more secure and supported infrastructure."

Andrew Hasler,
Project Manager, Kellogg's

OBJECTIVE

Defining a supported application platform for the future

Windows 2008 was due to go out of support in January 2020, so Kellogg's required a strategy for migrating away from that platform. In parallel, Kellogg's has a Cloud First Strategy, and were therefore looking at options for moving eligible applications and services to the cloud as part of this project.

In order to achieve the migration away from Windows 2008 Server, Kellogg's needed an IT partner to help them evaluate their current environment, and to analyse their existing applications to define a future target platform for these applications. As Stephanie Roddy, Kellogg's IT Director for Corporate Business Solutions says: "There was an opportunity here, to really validate what type of applications we have out there and what the strategy should be for each of them."

Andrew Hasler, Kellogg's Project Manager, confirms this dual-edged approach: "We were really looking for two key things. One was looking at opportunities to exploit cloud technology. So, against our current infrastructure, how could we move applications and infrastructure to the cloud? And at a more primary level, what and how can we move applications and infrastructure that we currently host on Windows 2008, to a secure supported infrastructure?"

In addition, independent advice on tools, technology and infrastructure best-suited to Kellogg's cloud needs was required, along with an ability to leverage existing vendor relationships to take advantage of best-fit cloud infrastructure and software vendors available. Finally, development of a cloud strategy was required, aimed at transforming Kellogg's environment for the future.

SOLUTION

Application Migration Assessment and business engagement analysis

Kellogg's turned to Computacenter to help advise them on their application strategy, via Computacenter's Application Migration Assessment Service. This included:

- Conducting a technical discovery and data capture in Kellogg's current Windows 2008 application environment.
- Engaging with Kellogg's application owners and business stakeholders to understand the application estate and the criticality to the business.
- Conducting a '6R' [retire, retain, re-host, re-platform, re-purchase, re-architect] analysis of all applications to determine whether an application should be decommissioned, migrated to cloud, or upgraded in situ.
- Producing a fully costed business case with recommendations for future transformation and migration of applications to cloud and other target platforms.
- Options for proceeding with the recommended work and a costed approach for doing so.



We gave Computacenter an opportunity to show what they were capable of, and they approached it in a really, really professional way, delving into so many areas we wouldn't have been able to do in-house."

Stephanie Roddy,
IT Director, Corporate Business Solutions, Kellogg's



Computacenter brought to the table a process, a methodology and a skill-set, and then adapted and flexed that to the structures within Kellogg's. This flexible approach was essential and contributed a lot to the project's success."

Andrew Hasler,
Project Manager, Kellogg's

The Application Migration Assessment service culminated in a Business Case for transforming the existing Windows 2008 application estate to meet Kellogg's requirements. This ensured that Kellogg's would be:

- Establishing a valid strategy and vision.
- Getting a clear insight into the current state of the environment.
- Eliminating the risk posed by Windows 2008 being end of life.
- Leveraging benefits arising from public cloud and other future platforms.
- Having clear prioritisation of ongoing transformation.
- Identifying other opportunities for improvement in Kellogg's estate.

In delivering this solution, Andrew Hasler was impressed with its flexibility. As he says: "Computacenter brought to the table a process, a methodology and a skill-set, and then adapted and flexed that to the structures and competing demands within Kellogg's."

Stephanie Roddy was also appreciative of both the size of the overall task and the solution delivered. As she explains: "The challenges that we provided to Computacenter were very in-depth and quite broad. We gave them an opportunity to show what they were capable of, and they approached this in a really, really professional way."

Finally, the solution that Computacenter delivered in developing a strategy for migrating Windows 2008 applications has proved of immense value to Kellogg's. As Stephanie Roddy explains: "They provided us with a fantastic solution that we can use for the future as well. So, as we go to Windows 2012 end of life, we'll be working on the same premises that we've done this time around."

OUTCOME

A clear strategy for remediation and opportunities for cloud transformation

Computacenter has successfully delivered the requested Application Migration Assessment consultancy service, and this has given Kellogg's a solid, strategic plan for migrating the customer's end-of-life applications and infrastructure to a cloud-based platform.

As Stephanie Roddy confirms: "Computacenter have delved into so many different areas that we wouldn't have been able to do in-house, by ourselves, and have provided us with a fantastic piece of work."

Kellogg's were also delighted to have engaged a flexible partner who was able to adapt their process, methodology and skill-set to fit in with the structures and competing demands within the Kellogg's business. As Andrew Hasler confirms: "Being able to flex that process around what we deliver and sustain was essential, and this contributed a lot to the success that we were able to deliver."

The solution and strategy devised has also enabled Kellogg's to look at their applications in a different way, and to gain access to previously untapped data. As Stephanie Roddy explains: "We've got a whole lot of data we didn't have before, so we can use that within our CMDB and baselines. And we can build a strategic view as opposed to an independent application view – which is really important for us."



We've got a whole lot of data we didn't have before, and we can build a strategic view as opposed to an independent application view – which is really important for us. Using Computacenter has helped us open our minds, open the way we think about Cloud First strategies, and other options, and it's helped us to develop our thinking for the future."

Stephanie Roddy,
IT Director, Corporate Business
Solutions, Kellogg's

Andrew Hasler agrees, stating that Computacenter has provided a major service in: "helping to drive the strategic thinking and the strategic approach for some of our longer-term benefits."

Andrew is also delighted with Computacenter's tactical advice, too. As he says: "The work that Computacenter has done has really helped us to highlight some opportunities for short-term quick wins, as well as advising on prioritisation of necessary actions to progress those activities."

As for the migration of Windows 2008 applications to an appropriate platform, Kellogg's are so pleased with the approach and methodology deployed that they will be re-using it for when Windows 2012 reaches end-of-life.

The partnership between Kellogg's and Computacenter has benefitted Kellogg's in other more profound ways, too. As Stephanie Roddy explains: "The work that Computacenter have completed has given us a few different ideas and made us think more broadly than we did before-hand. We've taken their expertise and approach and applied it in different fields, which has really challenged our thinking."

Computacenter is now helping Kellogg's execute the strategy defined to migrate from Windows 2008 and to explore public cloud options. This is enabling them to realise cost savings thanks to a reduced footprint on premises, and it has also brought about greater standardisation across the Kellogg's group.

Finally, we will leave the last word to Stephanie Roddy, again talking about the benefits of the Kellogg's partnership with Computacenter: "Using Computacenter has helped us open our minds, open the way we think about Cloud First strategies, and other options, and it's helped us to develop our thinking for the future."

ABOUT KELLOGG'S

Kellogg's is an American multinational food manufacturing company headquartered in Michigan, US, specialising in cereal and convenience foods. Founded in 1906 by W.K Kellogg, the company employs 34,000 people, with products manufactured and marketed in over 180 countries.

MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about our Application Migration Assessment service and read more customer case studies, please visit www.computacenter.com