Migrating workloads to a cloud-based solution

Utilizing Azure VMware Solution to support a leading dairy exporter’s cloud migration
The world’s largest exporter of dairy products sought to shift its IT infrastructure hosted over two data centers to a more flexible, cloud-based solution that could also support OPEX model and scalability requirements. The exporter was also looking to shift to an OEPX model to avoid additional capital expenditures in its data center and meet scalability requirements as it migrated workloads to the cloud.

The cooperative turned to HCLTech to consider options allowing VMware workloads to run natively using alternative delivery models and utilizing Azure VMware Solution (AVS) to handle complex workloads by extending the existing VMware environment in the cloud.

The desired shift to the cloud required managing a large amount of data as the company exports roughly 30% of the world’s dairy products and has a significant portfolio in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, the dairy cooperative is owned by over 10,000 farmer shareholders and operates in 140 countries. The legacy IT infrastructure and applications also made for a difficult transition into a cloud-based environment. The additional challenge of closing on-premise data centers with minimal business disruption had to be addressed.

The main objective for the exporter was to migrate to a more flexible, cloud-based infrastructure to improve business and manage data more efficiently and effectively enabling a consolidated data management structure to meet scalability requirements.
HCLTech worked with the dairy exporter to find options allowing VMware workloads to run natively and use AVS as a stepping stone to complete its cloud journey for complex workloads through extending the VMware environment in the cloud. The transformation also covered the design and implementation of AVS.

HCLTech's approach involved identifying the workloads to migrate and deploying three nodes on AVS private cloud for production as well as performing disaster recovery backup and restore using the exporter’s existing tool. After identifying the workloads to migrate, the process required assessing workloads and mapping the infrastructure dependencies in preparation of migration plans.

Further, collaborating with Intel was key to supporting the onboarding, as the solution required a design based on Intel AV36 instances. In addition to Intel, the solution required leaning on AVS to natively scale an on-demand platform for hosting applications, while utilizing Microsoft Azure's native toolsets integrations.

HCLTech also worked with Microsoft on this solution to identify the correct workload instances for the customer.

**The Solution**

Intel's AV36 on Azure provided numerous customer benefits. The dairy exporter was able to get three years of free extended security updates with minimal business disruption. Overall, the solution helped reduce complexity in the system, increase scalability and increase the agility and flexibility of its IT landscape.

Using Microsoft Azure Services and the Microsoft Azure Ecosystem improved the exporter’s integration process.

Through these collaboration efforts, HCLTech has enabled this large exporter of dairy products to modernize its IT environment, therefore, improving its customers’ and shareholders’ experiences.

**The Impact**

- Three years of free extended security updates to ensure its information is secure with minimal business disruption
- Helped reduce complexity in the system, increase scalability and increase the agility and flexibility of its IT landscape
- Improved exporters’ integration process through Microsoft Azure Services and the Microsoft Azure ecosystem

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