

HCL

Leading the digital transformation strategy

For a global construction company

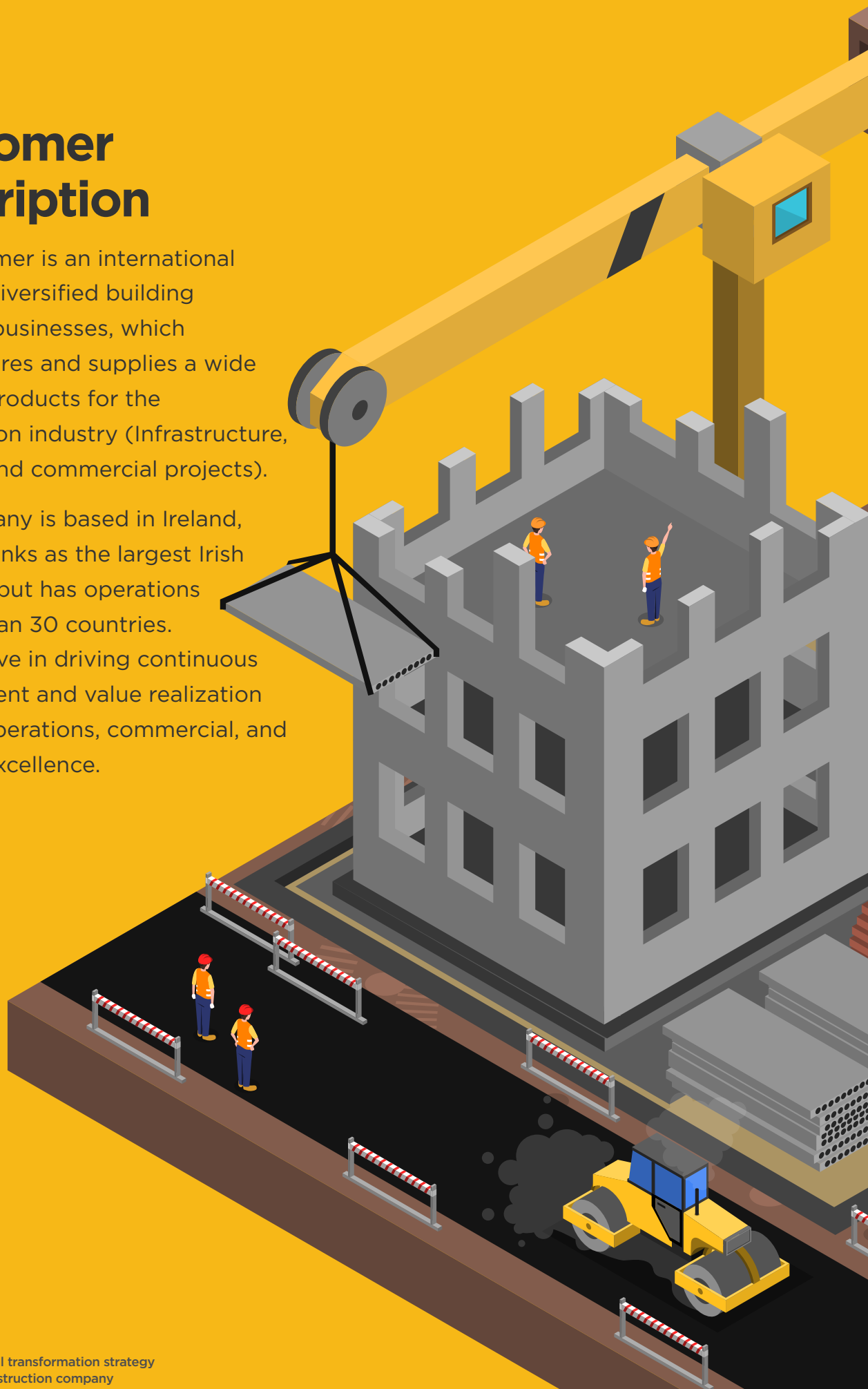


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Customer description

The customer is an international group of diversified building materials businesses, which manufactures and supplies a wide range of products for the construction industry (Infrastructure, housing, and commercial projects).

The company is based in Ireland, where it ranks as the largest Irish company, but has operations in more than 30 countries. They believe in driving continuous improvement and value realization through operations, commercial, and financial excellence.



Business need

With the industry moving towards innovation, the customer needed to move out of legacy technology and keep pace with industry leading technologies to enhance operational efficiencies, control IT costs and improve scalability. This bought about a need for technology transformation in their IT landscape.

Key business challenges:



The on premise SAP systems infrastructure was short of capacity and to expand further, new investments were required to scale



The Hosting contract was due for renewal. Most of the systems were either 'end of support' or 'end of life', providing the right circumstances for a technology refresh and creating a future roadmap



Most of the SAP systems were not patched since first implementation, posing a security risk



Some SAP databases were legacy (Max DB 7.6) and were out of support



SAP infrastructure was running on legacy Unix technology instead of an Azure cloud-based system which was becoming a deadlock for innovation





HCL's approach

With HCL's intensive experience of architecting SAP solutions for other customers and extensive capabilities in SAP BASIS and Azure, HCL helped the customer move away from proprietary to commodity hardware and operating systems (AIX/POWER to SLES/Intel) giving way to an OPEX model, thereby saving a lot of capex required for a hardware refresh.

Key highlights of the solution:

Provisioning the hosting platform in Azure and DR in a separate Azure region

Heterogeneous DC migration from AIX/DB2 to SLES/DB2 with negligible downtime

Upgradation of non-compatible SAP systems (e.g. BusinessObjects, LiveCache, TREX, Content Server systems) to make them Azure cloud compatible

Maintenance of IP addresses instead of hostnames for SAP RFC destinations

Few SAP databases and components were kept as is, (e.g. DB2, MaxDB, MS SQL) but upgraded (with a kernel upgrade) to the latest version in Azure cloud

Phased-approach for migration - migrate DEV, QAS, and PROD - avoided "big bang" and successfully completed migration in less than 8 months

Business benefits

Key business benefits delivered by HCL technologies to the client are:

- ✓ Reduction in overall infrastructure spending using the upgraded Azure cloud solution.
- ✓ Ability to spin up environments within hours, not days.
- ✓ On demand capability for SAP landscapes and SAP systems.
- ✓ Right-sizing of the SAP landscape; optimized utilization; consumption-based infrastructure.
- ✓ Ready-to-provision VMs for S/4HANA as and when required, to start the system conversion journey.

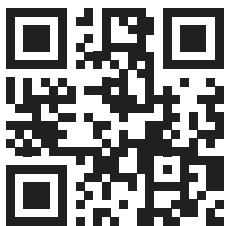




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