Company Profile

Founded in the early 1980’s “The Company” has provided the broadest portfolio in 3D design, engineering and entertainment software. Their products are leveraged in manufacturing, architecture, building, construction, and media and entertainment industries. “The Client’s” customers have won prestigious industry awards using one of the flagship products to design, visualize, and simulate their ideas prior to creation. From revolutionary visual effects, building architecture, and automotive design their software customers’ designs and products are famous around the globe.

In addition to state-of-the-art desktop applications, “The Company” develops apps for iPhone, iPad, iPod, and Android. Additionally their products are accessible to professional and amateur designers, businesses, and students. Whether it’s a novice looking to design their first creation, a seasoned professional drafting their latest masterpiece or the average Joe who wants to add pizzazz to their creative output, “The Client’s” technology is the industry choice in getting things done.

Project Details

After assisting “The Customer” with their disaster recovery site 10 years prior and a continued strategic advisor relationship, ACS was selected to install a new data center is located on the east coast. The new facility was a replacement of an existing primary data center in the Midwest. Integrating new technologies, while maintaining the production environment, and minimizing down time made successful planning, design and implementation critical to the successful completion.

“The Client’s” data center project required the procurement, staging, configuring, testing, and integrating multi-vendor hardware, software, and networking solutions. ACS made sure the configuration was correct, re-boxed equipment, shipped equipment across the country and then implemented the solutions at the new data center facility.
The Solution

One of the major contributions to the success of the data center relocation project was ACS well-executed discovery and design services. Staging the project in the Sunnyvale location enabled ACS to identify issues with equipment and configurations prior to bringing the data center live.

The project plan and execution saved “The Customer” time and money by successfully completing the following:

- Assisted customer with planning and design
- Procured equipment
- Staged equipment (HP/Dell servers, NetApp/HP storage, Cisco, Juniper, Xsigo, APC racks and PDUs)
- Provided project management (worked hand in hand with ADSK lead PM)
- Setup and rack/cable/label equipment at the ACS Integration Center in Sunnyvale CA
- Provided customer access to the stage equipment through a VPN
- Created a Kickstart environment
- Configured the servers, network and storage environments per the validated design
- Tested the environment with the customer
- Re-boxed equipment and shipped across country to the east coast
- Receive the equipment in the new data center
- Re-racked and cabled per the Sunnyvale setup
- Tested environment with customer
- Provided final documentation

The Results

Due to ACS’s expertise in all aspects of data center integration, “The Customer”, was able to avoid significant costs and project delays. “The Client” was extremely happy with the results and ACS continues to be a strategic partner for planning, designing, and implementing additional projects.

Highlights of the Project Results are identified below:

- Savings of $10K in power and cooling costs
- Customer spent 200 man hours in our local integration center which saved them at least $10k travel costs.
- Significant time save by troubleshooting software bugs locally with the manufacturers’ and “The Client’s” engineering teams. Working through these issues across the country would have been virtually impossible and significantly impacted the project timeline.
- ACS was able to vet integration, cabling, documentation issues locally before shipping across country eliminating surprises when the equipment arrived on the East Coast.
- ACS was able to assign local engineers to assist with implementation which saved $10k in ACE travel expenses that did not have to be passed onto the customer. The local resources also kept the project on track and contributed to the successful on-time completion
- If the project was not completed within the compact time-line, “The Customer” would have had to renew their old data center lease.