

CASE STUDY

Retailer's IT Modernization Succeeds with AISN's Infrastructure-as-a-Service

A high-performing state agency operating hundreds of stores worked with AIS Network to drive an agencywide IT transformation that impacted every employee and customer: migrating its IT infrastructure from an old environment to AISN's data centers. Having led the migration, AISN manages, secures and supports the new hybrid cloud environment. The modernization project has empowered agency staff to assume more direct control over their infrastructure, lower their costs and support rapid change.

Client

A \$1.06 billion government agency with nearly 5,000 employees and nearly \$1.5 billion in annual gross sales revenues is a major state revenue source. It enforces public safety laws, levies taxes, licenses 20,000 businesses and operates more than 400 stores.

Challenge

The agency required a flexible, secure IT architecture that would afford the smooth implementation of organizational changes related to its strategic plan. The architecture had to accommodate geographic independence, integration of next generation technology and facilities changes. The agency was planning a move to a new headquarters and distribution center and the architecture had to be a component that supported this move with minimal interruption of operations across more than 400 retail locations.

Solution

AISN systems architects collaborated with the agency to build a hybrid cloud environment, including 78 private cloud VMs served, 68 Microsoft Azure VMs and a small number of on-premises servers. VPN connections connected the backend infrastructure to the retail locations, integrating communications across the hybrid cloud environment. AISN continues to support the daily operations and maintenance of this high availability environment, including backups and restores from a hardened, off-site facility.

Results

Working collaboratively with the agency architecture team to complete this transformation of the agency's IT infrastructure resulted in a hybrid cloud Infrastructure model with a nimble and scalable compute, storage and networking environment; improved manageability; lowered costs; and the flexibility to integrate with the latest technology. Staff now have resources to complete other mission-critical tasks with AISN such as a continuously changing network to support the new headquarters, distribution center and retail stores across the state.

