CASE STUDY
NOVO BUILDING PRODUCTS

For Novo Building Products, cloud optimization results increased performance and 44% cost reduction.

OVERVIEW

Novo Building Products is an industry-leading manufacturer and distributor of mouldings, stair parts, doors, and speciality building products.

Novo Building Products serves building material dealers (lumberyards), door shops, retail home centers, and millwork manufacturing partners throughout the United States and parts of Canada and Mexico. Under the Novo umbrella are several companies with specialized services and markets that include:

✔ Sourcing & Brokerage

✔ Manufacturing

✔ Distribution

✔ Customer Performance Management

Novo's IT Director has leaned on InsITe for various projects in the past, and through continual engagement with his team, we were able to reveal that Novo's Azure cloud resources may not have been optimally configured, and there was potential for cost savings. Novo's IT Director agreed to allow InsITe to evaluate the environment and provide recommendations for cost savings.

CHALLENGE

Novo Building Products' Azure cloud resources were not optimally configured and there was a potential for cost savings. Novo was also leveraging a SCE agreement for their cloud services, which locks them into a minimum spend for cloud services.

Other Factors

- Azure cloud resources not optimally configured
- Leveraging SCE agreement for cloud services
- Reduced effectiveness
- Reduced elasticity in resources and cost

Business Solution

Novo agreed to allow InsITe to evaluate the environment and provide recommendations for cost savings. A targeted assessment was performed and determined there were significant savings that could be realized.

Microsoft Gold Partner

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ABOUT US

We are not your typical IT provider, and we mean it!

As an IT consulting company, we see technology as an enabler, not the answer for everything. Our Team's hard work and dedication to that principal makes all the difference for our clients. We don't start with technology; we start with understanding. Our clients see that we are more thorough and that we take the time to communicate with them, their management, and their staff to deliver technology needs aligned with their business goals. Our clients say it best: "they don't work for you; they work with you."

SOLUTIONS

InsITe was able to perform a targeted assessment and measure Novo's usage of each cloud resource, then compare the relative usage to the capacity of each resource.

Based on the assessment, we were able to develop a complete cost analysis for the current state, and a comparison cost analysis for a future state, given several areas of overprovisioning that were discovered. We determined there were significant savings that could be realized with the changes we recommended.

Novo was also still on the "Classic" Azure services, which are no longer fully supported by Microsoft, and don't provide optimal Virtual Machine (VM) pricing at this time. Our engineering team built a project plan to first migrate the Azure resources to the Modern ARM Architecture, then perform a complete cost optimization. The overall plan handled 13 Classic Resource servers migration to Azure Resource Manager by June 2018 as the first step in the project. The complete migration plan included VM size recommendations, projected cost savings, and migration requirements.

Once completed, the new VM types and sizes would become available in Azure ARM and we performed utilization analysis to determine the optimal configuration post-migration. The InsITe team worked with Novo's IT department to discover the current Azure deployment state, migration dependencies, and the VM roles.

Equipped with a complete understanding of the migration requirements, the InsITe team migrated all resources from the Azure Classic platform to the Azure Resource Manager within the planned downtime event window. After initial discovery and migration validation, the InsITe team walked through the validation failures, remediation steps, and migration plan.

44%
Reduction in cloud costs

13
Classic Resource servers migrated to ARM

BENEFITS

● **Migration from Azure Classic to Azure Resource Manager**
The InsITe team migrated all resources from the Azure Classic platform to the Azure Resource Manager within the planned downtime event window. After initial discovery and migration validation, the team walked through the validation failures, remediation steps, and migration plan.

● **Boost in VM Performance**
Through this project, we were able to identify a configuration that would maintain or improve existing VM performance.

● **44% reduction in Azure VM operational costs**
After the completion of this project, we were able to realize a 44% reduction (over $15,000 annually) in Azure Virtual Machine operational costs for Novo.

● **Complete solutions with InsITe's ESIM Approach**
We proactively notified Novo of the opportunity to save on cloud costs. To obtain such savings, we leveraged a new series of VMs that allow for CPU time bank, with burstable performance as required – true elastic cloud. Using ESIM, we can tailor solutions to fit organizations current state and long-term.

insITe
BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

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