# hanu™

## Hanu Migrates MS Society of Canada's Entire IT Infrastructure to Azure;Reduces IT Costs by approximately 30% in Unprecedented Public Sector Cloud Migration

## CHALLENGE

When MS Society of Canada first approached Hanu, they were looking for a way out of the IT infrastructure game, and into the cloud

## PROJECT DETAILS

As a nonprofit, we realized that IT is not our core competency," explains Paul Athaide, Senior Manager, Support and Infrastructure, MS Society of Canada. "Our team needed to focus as much as possible on our mission, fundraising, research, and helping those that are affected by MS, not managing and maintaining in-house systems and servers. It also didn't make sense for us to invest resources in new people with the knowledge and training necessary to maintain an IT infrastructure, as this just meant more resources that wouldn't go to help those we serve."

> ### By the Number
>
> - IT Operational costs reduced by approximately 30%
> - 450 users active on Office 365 in under 6 months
> - 21 servers migrated to Azure with zero downtime
> - $10,000 saved on the cost of migration

## SOLUTION

MS Society's initial solution to extricate themselves from the role of IT administrators was to virtualize some of their less-critica workloads and host them in the cloud. While they were able to accomplish this with specific servers, they were unable to migrate their mission-critical workloads to the cloud in a manner that wouldn't disrupt day-to-day operations or jeopardize data security.

"We wanted to migrate 100% into the cloud," says Athaide. "But we had come as far as we could on our own. No other non-profit had attempted to move their entire IT infrastructure into the cloud, so there was no blueprint for us to follow. If we wanted to migrate our remaining twenty-one servers to the cloud while ensuring security and no major operational disruption, we were going to need help."

# Moving Linux and Open Source Servers to Azure

Enter Hanu. In August 2019, we began to implement our 3-step cloud journey with MS Society. In step 1, we performed an assessment of MS Society's current IT infrastructure and to develop their cloud strategy and roadmap. Hanu determined that 20 of their servers would be migrated using the re-host ("lift-and-shift") migration methodology, with the final server (Windows 7) would either have to be decommissioned or greenfield in Azure.

Servers migrated consisted of 10 RedHat Linux Servers running on mySQL and 5 Ubuntu Linux Servers running PostgreSQL. The remaining servers wewre Windows based with SQL Server

After the initial Azure minimum viable cloud infrastructure validation period, the entire migration process would take between four and six weeks.

During this phase, we also performed an ROI/TCO analysis. We project that by moving to Azure and adopting a managed services model, we could save MS Society at least 20%.

# Hanu Exceeds Cost Reduction Expectations, Completes Migration With Zero Downtime

Fast forward to September: just six months after engaging with Hanu, MS Society has migrated their remaining twenty-one servers to the Azure Cloud. This includes 450 users on Office 365. But perhaps most importantly, it enables their IT team of 5 to stop working on infrastructure maintenance, and start working on innovation.

"Partnering with Hanu hast freed my time up from working on putting out fires and dealing with all the administrative tasks," says Athaide. "We're now working more towards new technologies, trying to do a little bit more forward-thinking, and planning proactive changes to the network, instead of reactive. Because things are running well, it's allowing us to focus on the next steps, and not worry about day to day things anymore."

The migration has also resulted in significant cost reductions.

"I know when we looked at it initially, I thought I was going to see at least a 20% savings, but that was just over my normal operational costs, and that didn't account for the money that we would have had to spend on refreshing the infrastructure. **Hanu surpassed their 20% goal, saving us 27% in our monthly operational costs, and at least $200,000 in new hardware expenses."**

**Additionally, Hanu was able to help MS Society secure sponsorship to pay for their migration. This resulted in a savings of over $10,000.**

"Hanu really made the migration process simple and easy for us," says Athaide. "I can't say enough about how simple and easy it was. They set up the environment for us. They did all the work. They did all the heavy lifting. Our of everything, we only had one server that had an issue, and that wasn't through any fault on their end – it's something you expect in IT. But they took that a step further, and identified where the problem was. They got Microsoft involved. The specialist that was working on our project, I don't think he got any sleep for 24 hours, because he was just going solid working with Microsoft to resolve the issue. Because of Hanu, we didn't experience any downtime, something that would have been expected with almost any other MSP."

## ABOUT MS SOCIETY

The MS Society provides services to people with multiple sclerosis and their families and funds research to find the cause and cure for this disease. They  have a membership of over 7,000 and are the only national voluntary organization in Canada that supports both MS research and services. Since our founding in 1948, the core support of the MS Society has been from tens of thousands of dedicated individuals, companies and foundations in communities across Canada.

The MS Society is governed by a board of directors comprised of 14 volunteer members who are elected annually. There are seven regional divisions and more than 90 chapters that engage in many community-based activities.

1,500 volunteers serve on MS Society national, division and chapter boards and committees. An estimated 13,500 women and men are volunteers for service programs, fundraising events, public awareness campaigns and social action activities.

The head office of the MS Society is located in Toronto, Ontario. Division offices are located in Dartmouth, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

## ABOUT HANU

A Microsoft Partner for over 20 years, a Tier I CSP Partner and an Azure Expert Managed Service Provider exclusively dedicated to Azure migration and integration, Hanu supports enterprises with unequalled intelligence and expertise providing Managed Transformation, Application Modernization and Enterprise IT Innovation.

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From Azure CSP to Managed Services to strategic consulting and development, HANU has the expertise to help organizations capture the potential of their cloud strategy through every stage of their transformation.