Borderless Computing – Catalyst for IT Change and Innovation via the relocation of the ACU Data Centre

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ACU Environment

- Over 30,000 student population
- Multiple campuses in 4 states
- Continuous growing demand from staff/students and researches for fast network speeds and large storage space
- These growing demands have caused IT to rethink their strategy to cater for the future
- The current DC was not ‘purpose’ built
The Drivers

• The key IT drivers – ‘was not about the cloud’ but the opportunities within the co-host facility to leverage off their existing partnership to provide services
Determine if a Co-location Strategy is a fit with the Business

• Aging Facility
• Growth
• High Availability
• Security
• Cost
AARNet’s Enterprise Services Team
WE OFFER SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE IN FOUR KEY SERVICE AREAS:

1. ENTERPRISE NETWORKS AND SECURITY
Data network auditing and remedial assistance, as well as services and solutions for campus wired and wireless network design and trust, security, identity and access management.

2. ENTERPRISE IT PLANNING
Project management, business case development, business continuity management, IT disaster recovery plans and pre-paid engineering hours.

3. DATA CENTRE AND CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE
Comprehensive strategic analysis of data centre and cloud service options, reviews and updates to physical and virtual data centre infrastructure inventories, data centre design, migration and implementation.

4. RICH MEDIA COLLABORATION
Holistic solutions for unified communications (UC), UC deployment strategy, technical reviews, system design and implementation.
Engagement Scope

- Co-ordinate Stakeholder Activities
- Design And Implement Network Solution
- Manage The Physical Migration
- Identify Hardware Requirements For Procurement
Challenges

- Tight Timeframes
- Forklift Migration
- 3rd Party Procedures and Timeframes
- Support Staff Availability
What Worked Well

- Communication Plan
- Roles And Responsibilities
- Team Work Spirit
What To Be Aware Of

• Before And After Snapshots
• Power Testing Procedures At Datacentres
• Active Directory
• Equipment Labelling
• Rollback Procedures
• Hardware Compatibility
Lessons Learned

• Resource intensive → would not do this again over the weekend
• Co-ordination between parties → very critical
• Plenty of planning was the key for success
• Result → very satisfied
Where To Go From Now

• Embarking on the Hybrid-Cloud Initiatives
• With the SAN replacement in 2016 → looking at managed services and improving resiliency through Hybrid Cloud solutions by leveraging existing services from Fujitsu and other providers, i.e. storage as a service, VDi as a service..
QUESTIONS?