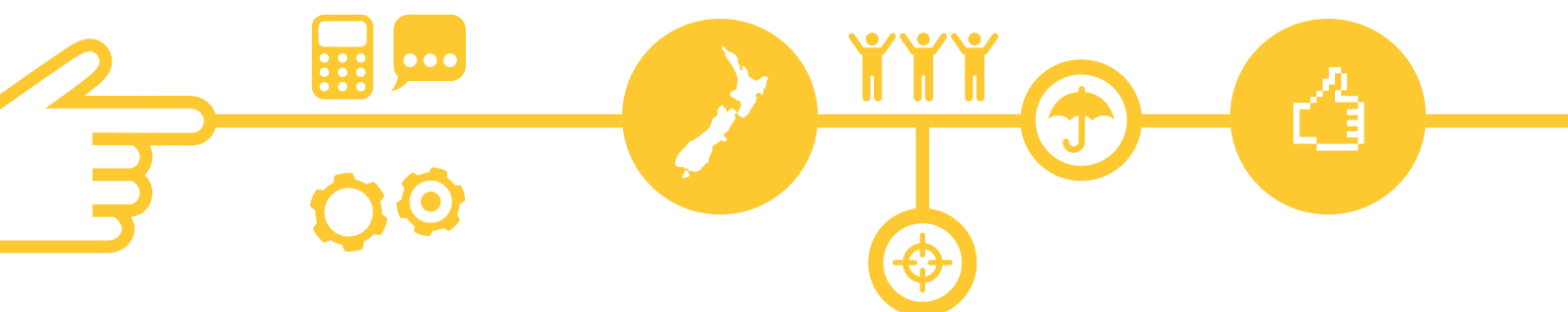
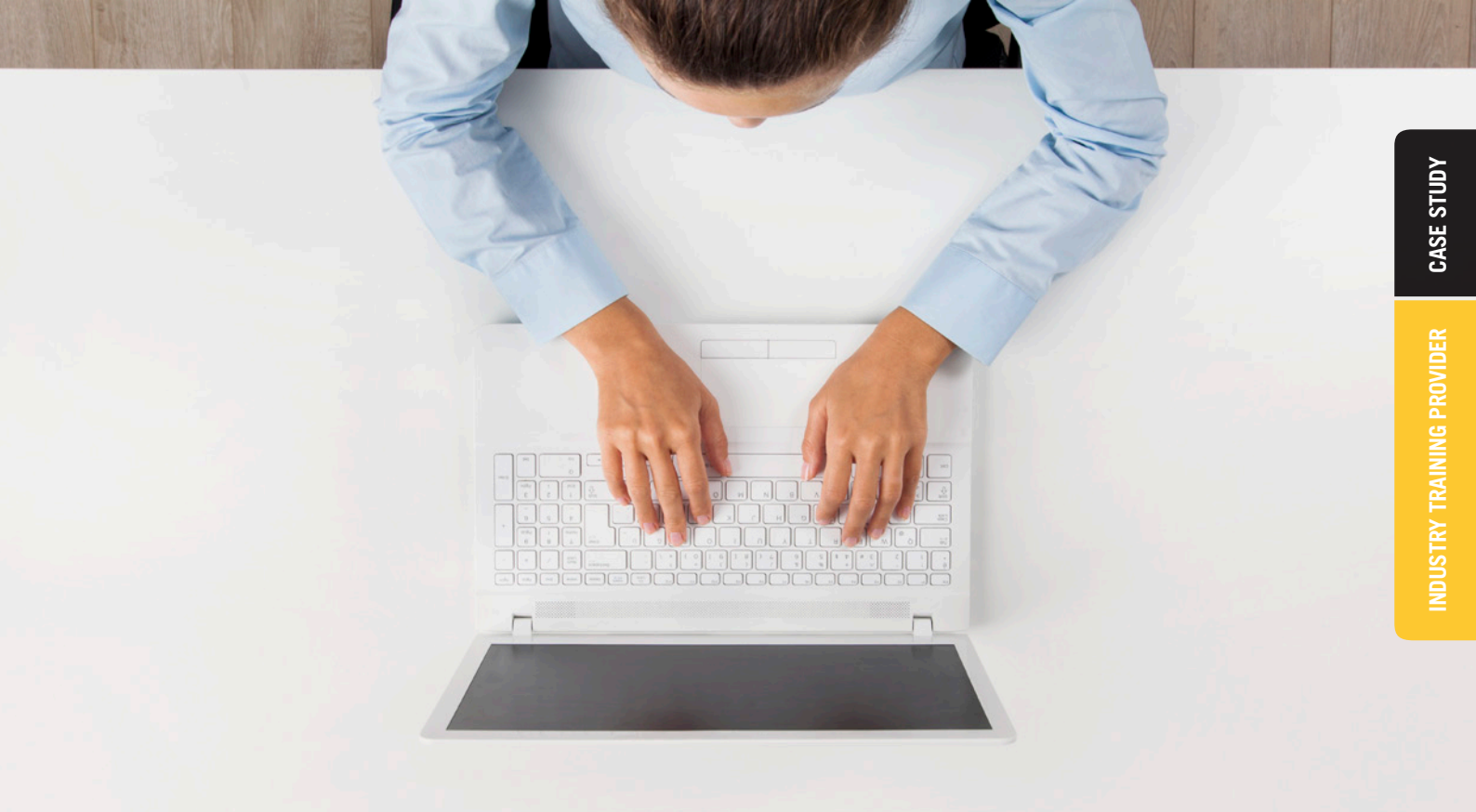




Industry training provider goes local for Azure. What's going on?

Revera takes industry training provider to Azure. Provider gets best of both worlds – public cloud performance with local expertise.

Radar
by  CloudCreator



“I was surprised when Revera sold us public cloud. It told me they’re focused on customer needs, not revenue.”

– Information Systems Manager, unnamed industry training provider

The 2016 Kaikoura earthquake prompted organisations across New Zealand to reconsider their business continuity plans. Suddenly, best laid plans looked a little shaky as quake-affected organisations scrambled to re-establish business as usual.

The information systems manager at an unnamed training provider was sceptical of his organisation’s ability to get back on its feet in the event of a disaster.

Like many small-medium sized organisations, the training provider’s business continuity platform ran on “retired” hardware housed in a remote data centre. If the proverbial hit the fan, only a select few employees knew what to do and would take hours to get it done. Never mind that the provider’s workers had to reconvene at the data centre to access the organisation’s network. The whole setup felt dated.

Turning business continuity on its head

“We’d moved to Office365 – our people are used to working from anywhere,” said the manager of information systems. “So we tipped our DR strategy on its head.”

He sat down with Revera and the conversation turned to Microsoft Azure. The manager liked the sound of Revera’s recommendation: Azure Site Recovery for disaster recovery; and Azure Backup for backup as a service. Radar by CloudCreator provided the glue, covering setup and design, migration, and ongoing management and reporting to keep everything humming in the background.

“I was surprised when Revera sold us public cloud. It told me they’re focused on customer needs, not revenue,” he said. “But public clouds certainly have their place – they’re fantastic when latency doesn’t matter and when there aren’t sensitivities around the location of your data.”

DR in the cloud

Azure Site Recovery delivers simple, automated protection and disaster recovery in the cloud. The training provider’s on-premise virtual machines are replicated in Azure. Site Recovery manages ongoing data replication by integrating existing technologies, including System Center and Microsoft SQL Server AlwaysOn.

The setup eliminates the cost and complexity of a secondary site and paves the way for work-from-anywhere recovery. What’s more, it saved the provider a bundle.



“We’ve halved our expenditure on business continuity,”

said the manager.

“And now we have a system that can support the entire organisation for as long as it needs to cope that way.”



Improved speed is another plus, with Site Recovery's simple flick-of-the-switch activation a stark contrast to the six hours of technical work required under the old recovery regime.

Backup as a Service

Azure Backup provides a simple cloud-based backup service (or BaaS). A backup agent sends server images to an Azure recovery vault, with geo-replication maintaining six copies of the training provider's data across two Azure data centres. A self-service portal allows the provider to travel back through time to restore data from any point in its history.

Radar by CloudCreator

When it comes to DR, you have to get it right the first time. Uncovering setup errors or oversights when you need your data back simply doesn't wash. That's why the manager opted for Radar by CloudCreator.

"It's unfeasible for a small team to keep abreast of developments in the cloud," he said. "Moreover, while Amazon and co make it easy, there's no assurance you've set things up in a robust or secure fashion. You're playing with fire. DR just has to work, so it's worth paying an expert to get it right the first time."

A virtual cloud services team, Radar by CloudCreator combines technical experts with automation and monitoring technologies to navigate platforms in public clouds, covering everything from architecture design and setup, to monitoring, reporting, and break fix support.

The presence of a specialist support team also ensures the continued availability

of expert help, when the organisation's staff are off the scene. Ease of billing is another small but important delight factor for the training provider. They don't have to flash a credit card at Microsoft – a single monthly invoice from Revera covers the lot.

AZURE AND RADAR BY CLOUDCREATOR

The training provider works like a pro in the public cloud. Radar by CloudCreator keeps everything humming in the background and an eye on useful new developments. And all for around one-third of the cost of running DR from the training provider's remote data centre facility.



Public cloud performance

Azure's ecosystem offered the training provider quick access to powerful public cloud features.



Experts at the wheel

Radar by CloudCreator ensured the organisation got everything right the first time and keeps watch over all the moving parts. What a relief.



Savings bonanza

Azure combined with Radar delivered a far superior DR platform for around one-third of the price of the training provider's old regime.



Transparency

Monthly reports show unit costs and consumption.



Easy-as

The training provider's Azure platform was up and running in a matter days.



From CAPEX to OPEX

With hardware out of the picture, the training provider has effectively removed a chunk of its IT assets from the balance sheet.

LEARN MORE ABOUT REVERA RADAR.

Call a Revera business development manager on **0800 222 474**,
or email enquiry@revera.co.nz

www.revera.co.nz