CONTAX

ELECTRIC COMPANY MIGRATES THEIR SAP ECC LANDSCAPE TO THE AWS CLOUD.

FORTIS ONTARIO

aws PARTNER SAP Services Competency

THE CHALLENGE:

FortisOntario was running an older version of SAP on Windows servers, and running into licensing requirements. In search of a new partner, FortisOntario reached out to CONTAX for their expertise with SAP on AWS projects.

THE SOLUTION:

Leveraging the tooling from the previous partner, CONTAX was able to migrate the landscape quickly and effectively with minor disruptions.

THE RESULTS

FortisOntario now has a stable SAP landscape on the Cloud and a new partner for continued workload migration.



FORTISONTARIO INC. BACKGROUND

Canadian Niagara Power Inc. supplies electricity to over 24,800 customers in the Fort Erie and Port Colborne area. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of FortisOntario Inc. FortisOntario Inc. is headquartered in Fort Erie and has operations in electricity distribution and transmission and serves approximately 65,000 customers primarily located in Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Cornwall and Gananoque and the Algoma District of Ontario. FortisOntario is 100% owned by Fortis Inc. of St. John's, Newfoundland.

FortisOntario quickly ran into a problem as they were not innovating at a fast enough pace. They wanted to move their SAP landscape onto AWS to take advantage of all of the new services and features that are available to companies running SAP in the cloud.

THE CHALLENGE:

Fortis was running an older version of SAP on Windows servers with an SQL database. They decided to upgrade their system, change their operating system to SUSE Linux and convert their database SAP ASE. All of those decisions were made with an eye to the future. Getting away from Microsoft Windows and SQL released Fortis Ontario from the onerous Microsoft licensing requirements and took their systems one step closer to the eventual goal of running SAP S/4HANA. Their team will have gained experience managing an SAP landscape on linux, which will eliminate one

IF YOU WANT OUR HELP, WE WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU. CONTACT US BELOW.

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more variable when they do eventually upgrade to S/4.

Fortis began the migration project with another AWS partner but had to abruptly put an end to the relationship due to an emergent conflict of interest. Fortis reached out to CONTAX because of their reputation of being able to complete complex SAP on AWS projects. The CONTAX team was asked to finish where the previous partner had left off and push the project over the finish line.

"Our current system could not keep up with our demand, and we were desperate for an upgrade. Taking the leap towards SAP S/4HANA provides us with a functioning landscape we need for continued growth and success."

- GEOFF VISENTIN, IT MANAGER, FORTISONTARIO

THE SOLUTION:

CONTAX used a "Dance with who you came to the dance with" approach and leveraged all the tooling that the previous partner had developed over the planning and realization stages of the migration. The previous partner had chosen to deploy the infrastructure using Terraform by Hashicorp and automate the application installation using Ansible. Though CONTAX prefers AWS's own tools such as AWS CloudFormation and AWS Cloud Development Kit (CDK), their developers reviewed the existing tooling that had been developed and opted to use it for consistency and expediency.

CONTAX was brought into the project following a significant disruption, and the project timeline had already been affected by the need to change partners. Once CONTAX came onboard, the project began moving swiftly. Once the team began working in earnest in mid-March of 2022, they set a cutover date in Q3 of 2022. They performed several mock cutovers to a sandbox landscape to became comfortable with the toolset and finished the migration on schedule.

"We were ecstatic when Fortis Ontario approached us to help them finish their AWS migration. Their talented team helped CONTAX get up to speed on what had been done and what was left to go. We're excited to work with them as they continue their cloud innovation journey."

- TIM CARIOSCIO, MANAGER CLOUD COE, CONTAX INC.

THE RESULTS:

Having moved their SAP ECC systems to AWS, Fortis has been happy with the stability of their SAP landscape. They are continuing work with CONTAX and are migrating their last remaining workloads into the AWS cloud.

"Working with CONTAX has been an extreme pleasure. Their constant support, knowledge, and flexibility have made the migration smooth as butter. We are very happy to continue work with them in the future."

- GEOFF VISENTIN, IT MANAGER, FORTISONTARIO

ABOUT CONTAX INC.

CONTAX is an SAP Gold Channel Partner that specializes in SAP consulting services, delivering rapid and cost-effective ERP solutions for the small to mid-size market as well as SAP consulting services for large-scale enterprises. As a member of the AWS Solution Provider Program, CONTAX is an AWS Competency Partner specializing in SAP workloads as well as an AWS Advanced Consulting Partner. CONTAX's highly skilled resources have AWS certifications in solutions architecture, cloud, big data, SysOps and security.

For more information, contact CONTAX at info@contax.com or visit their website.

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