

Case Study

eValue

eValue innovates rapidly with The Bunker, part of the Cyberfort Group's platform as a service

Customer profile

Industry:
IT Services

Location:
London, UK

Web:
digiseq.co.uk

Solutions provided

- Colocation
- Dual-fed UPS backed power
- 24/7/365 on-site security and service desk

Business results

- Solution fully approved by MasterCard
- Maximum level of protection for consumer data
- Security, availability and flexibility support DigiSEQ's unique value proposition

Customer background

eValue communicates investment risk through state-of-the-art financial planning software. Powered by its stochastic economic scenario generator (ESG) forecasting model, the company's solutions are used by some 250,000 consumers, 15,000 investors and financial advisors, and 80% of the UK's Financial Services companies. As a long-term client of The Bunker, part of the Cyberfort Group, it recently upgraded to Platform as a Service (PaaS) to speed its application development and time to market.

The challenge

Originally established as a line of business within a professional services firm, eValue first engaged The Bunker, part of the Cyberfort Group, when its parent company outsourced its IT infrastructure.

With clients such as financial institutions mandating stringent due diligence, eValue needed a specialist-outsourcing partner able to assure the highest levels of security, availability and compliance.

We built a bespoke Platform as a Service (PaaS) environment for eValue that included a shared web application layer, and full disaster recovery (DR) and backup across two sites, together with dedicated application and database servers to support corporate clients – all monitored 24/7/365 from The Bunker's Security Operations Centre (SOC).

Now an independent company, eValue is experiencing greater demand for its products. Recent changes in the UK pensions market mean consumers have the option to not only purchase an annuity but also to drawdown a certain amount each year, or take the whole amount as a lump sum. eValue needs to innovate with new products catering for this '3 in 1' choice, while increasing its capacity to deliver a mixture of product and bespoke solutions in a cost-effective way.



Our highly secure and high availability solution

eValue has migrated to The Bunker's PaaS to provide it with a faster and more cost-effective model for application development and delivery. The solution is built on our Open Source private cloud platform, powered by OpenNebula, The infrastructure is housed in our fully owned UK data centres with partitioned redundant power delivering 100% uptime.

We maintains and supports eValue's applications by adding new infrastructure as needed, monitoring systems to assure maximum performance, installing security patches and ensuring specialists are always available to assist the development team. In addition, there are weekly and monthly sessions to explore opportunities to enhance and maximise on the company's investment in PaaS.

Crucially, our roots in Open Source, Information Security and ISO 27001 accredited, ex-military facilities provide eValue's customers with the assurance they need concerning the confidentiality, availability and integrity of their applications and data.

The solution

Operating across two sites with clustered databases and full orchestration capability, our PaaS environment enables eValue to rapidly spin up new versions and instances of its applications, drop its code into production and quickly deliver new services and functionality to customers.

Meanwhile, the fact it is a PaaS solution means the technical team at eValue can focus solely on developing, running and managing its applications without the associated complexities of maintaining the underlying infrastructure. It has adopted an aggressive 8-week release window that allows it to move new code seamlessly from test and development into production, so that clients and end users benefit from continuous improvements to the user interface (UI).

Furthermore, eValue is able to deliver special projects for clients that require a particular type of configuration or solution component – whether it's a specific type of database server or an environment in which the application and hosting are run separately to meet compliance mandates. PaaS enables eValue to offer this level of flexibility to its end customers, while ensuring a future ready, secure, compliant and highly scalable platform for business growth in an ever evolving pensions market.

Their verdict

"Security, minimal downtime and reliability are the key capabilities that The Bunker, part of the Cyberfort Group, brings and these provide a solution that works for clients, The Bunker and us. Our clients run lots of penetration tests, which we encourage, and we always pass with flying colours.

We've also been able to move from a production site and dr site to a 'live live' model that coincided with our growth and the use of our systems. We can work on an agile basis to develop and move solutions into production, while our clients still get fantastic failover, it's so good that we're really excited about it."

- Richard Barker, Operations Director, eValue

Cyberfort Group

The Cyberfort Group offers a matrix of global Cyber advisory, detection and defensive security solutions, providing the assurance integral to your business growth.



ADVISE

Providing practical advice and pragmatic solutions to cyber security



DETECT

Helping you understand and improve your security position



DEFEND

Ensuring your data is always secure and available