

Case Study

SD WAN Migration & Management Project

In 2018, a well-known manufacturing and distribution company in partnership with a major Systems Integrator, chose Systal to help them implement and manage their SD-WAN objectives over a three-year period.

The Challenge:

During early 2018, the client began a migration to multi-cloud and embarked on a journey to improve their digital workplace. To realise these objectives, they needed better service elasticity for their remote estate. For these reasons they chose to implement Network Function Virtualisation (NFV) using the Cisco E Series Network Compute Storage (ENCS) Platform.

The Solution:

The customer required a fast, cost effective and low risk migration of services and therefore needed an experienced service integration partner to deliver this critical project on time and to budget. Systal's proven delivery methodology and experience in infrastructure transition offered the customer the expertise, flexibility and agility required to complete the project within tight timescales and with minimum risk to the business. Systal was subsequently awarded the contract in August 2018 with the project kicking off in September 2018.

To give them the flexibility to choose their bandwidth in the most cost-effective way, our client unbundled their WAN CPEs from their bandwidth provider. Connecting this

unbundled bandwidth to the Cisco ENCS hardware, which replaced their old CPE routers, allowed them the freedom of bandwidth choice that they were looking for.

Whilst many of their manufacturing sites will continue to use MPLS WAN for guaranteed reliability, many of their offices will migrate to internet usage in 2019 and beyond. By changing over to using the internet they will save significant bandwidth costs per site.



Unbundling the CPE from the ISP has also instantly allowed them to meet targets on a reduction in expenditure on new hardware. In this instance they have upgraded some of their remote sites to deploy virtual Palo Alto firewalls. Something previously that would have required new physical hardware and probably many months to implement.

Systal's client transition team worked hard to meet the ambitious deadline for the clients' Iberia region, encompassing approximately 1200 network devices across Spain and Portugal. This included ServiceNow incident management training for 2nd and 3rd level engineers.

The next milestone included setting into place a BAU structure, governance and reporting, as well as the transition of the Germany estate with its 2200 network devices by late December 2018.

The early part of 2019 saw the final transition of approximately 3000 network devices covering 7 countries across Europe.

Systal now provides an “overlay” service to give the client the single pane of glass view that they were looking for. This overlay also serves to radically improve LAN/WAN incident management.



Later in 2019 we will see this functionality expand to include remote virtualised x86 branch server, load balancing and wireless LAN controller services that bring similar benefits.

The Benefits:

- Significantly improved WAN/LAN performance and incident management through the 'single pane of glass' management service provided by Systal Technology Solutions.
- Considerable cost savings and efficiencies in overall bandwidth and hardware spend through the ability to unbundle their network links from their bandwidth provider and have the freedom to choose virtualised technology rather than purchase new hardware.

- Greater security and agility with SD WAN. Unbundling from standard ISP WAN offerings with often inflexible service models creates an agile and easier to change network.

Systal work in a true partnership with our clients. We are vendor and technology agnostic which allows us to match our clients' needs with the best hardware and applications for their requirements. This has led naturally to increasing demand for Systal's Services Integration of SD-WAN technologies.

About Systal Technology Solutions

Systal Technology Solutions is an IT Services Integrator. We help our customers optimise IT to maximise the value of Technology by advising on IT strategy, deploying, and integrating appropriate technologies, and managing elements of their infrastructure on their behalf.

At every stage, we help our customers minimise the cost and maximise the business value of their IT expenditure. We have experience delivering globally across a wide range of industry sectors.

Our people strive to deliver excellent customer service, to exceed expectations and consistently go that extra mile.

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