



Quantum Foods adds agility and security whilst aiming to reduce costs with Azure SAP migration

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Customer
Quantum Foods

Partner
Logicalis South Africa

Use Case
SAP Azure Migration
Security Services
Managed Services

Products & Services
Azure
SAP Migration
Service Desk
End User Computing
Active Directory, Messaging & SCCM
SharePoint Support & Enhancement
Managed Network
Managed Services

Industry
Farming & Fishing Sector

Organisation Size
1000 staff
486 IT Users
45 Sites

Country
South Africa
Botswana
Zambia
Uganda
Mozambique

Responsible and sustainable food producer

Quantum Foods is a diversified feed and poultry business that provides quality animal feeds and poultry products to selected South African and African markets and is the largest producer of eggs in South Africa.

Not just a lift and shift to Cloud

Technological expertise, global insights and knowledge of Quantum Foods' future IT aspirations were key factors in providing a turnkey solution. Particular attention was afforded to hyperscale Cloud Services and the best possible options available considering key components such as the current ERP system and the assurances of reliability and affordability. There was a significant requirement to take a fresh look at options available in the provision of Managed Services and security fabric to enable the business on its journey to digital transformation, as well as becoming a trustworthy and innovative ICT partner.

Taking a Quantum step

Guided by strong corporate governance objectives and technology lifecycle considerations, Quantum Foods awarded their full hosted on-premises Data Centre and SAP migration to the Azure Cloud platform to Logicalis following a strict RFP process. The tender process provided the platform to engage a partner that could assist Quantum Foods in their complex digital transformation journey with confidence, mitigating risk and reducing costs. As a certified [Microsoft Azure Expert MSP](#) (Managed Service Provider) Logicalis utilized their strong global Microsoft relationship to craft a robust and innovative solution blueprint underpinned by tried and tested cloud migration methodologies and procedures. To maintain the continued vendor support for the mission critical SAP solution, the proposed design presented by Logicalis was validated and endorsed by Microsoft before sign-off. The Linux based SAP application was migrated to a different virtualization layer following stringent benchmark testing to validate the data integrity, creating a successful virtual environment.

The security posture remained crucial during and after the data centre migration to Azure. Pre and Post assessments was part of the transition and included end-to-end user experience benchmarking.

Data integrity and transitioning the environment in a controlled and secure fashion was achieved by a dedicated team from Logicalis and Quantum Foods. The customer IT stakeholders had a clear vision of their ultimate objectives and took every opportunity to work with the Logicalis Team to ensure a successful transition. By employing successful transition methodologies, a strong project management framework and executive sponsorship, the full data and SAP migration was successfully completed in 20 day. Small technical challenges that were encountered along the way were timeously resolved through close partnerships between Logicalis and Microsoft engineering teams during the 12 hour cut over window. The managed services contract and migration took 4 months in total.



Agility leads to growth

The flexibility gained from moving workloads to Azure enable the implementation of further innovations along the journey of digital transformation.

- Transformation from IaaS to a SaaS model optimises performance and introduces cost savings.
- Commercial savings achieved by commissioning servers during work hours only. The flexibility to power the servers on and off as required also reduces the security attack risk.
- Challenges beyond the data centre such as aged equipment at branch offices can more easily be addressed with a firm plan on how to migrate all sites to the cloud.
- SDWAN solution proposed to improve efficiencies.
- Ability to scale to meet increasing demand.
- Knowledge and skill transfer between the Logicalis and Quantum Food teams.
- The entire project lifecycle was successfully documented and recorded to comply with all corporate governance requirements.
- Access to advanced reporting and data management.

“Of the providers we considered for this work, Logicalis was a stand-out candidate,”

stated Michiel van Niekerk,
CIO at Quantum Foods.

“Their effort to obtain a detailed understanding of our businesses requirements, transparent approach and energetic and knowledgeable executive team positioned them as the preferred outsourcing and digital transformation partner for Quantum Foods”.

Promoting innovation through partnership

The Logicalis Team adopted a phased implementation approach with gated milestones requiring approval upon completion by both parties. Quality criteria were agreed in advance of entering each key stage of the project. Each phase is well documented and begins with an initiation phase followed by validation phase, implementation phase and finally a formal Hand Over of the service and closure the project.

By using this collaborative approach, the project progress was consistently reviewed during the lifecycle of each agreed project stage ensuring that any and all amendments and escalations were resolved in adequate time – reducing any impact to the successful delivery of the project stage.

An overarching theme presented itself throughout the Quantum Foods transition. The transparent alignment of the team from Logicalis and Quantum Foods significantly increased the successes achieved. Having a firm understanding of the customer's business processes and pain points was imperative for the Logicalis team in delivering a solution that would enable Quantum Foods to focus on their goal of becoming a leading food producer in the local market. A flat management structure and executive sponsorship as well as a fresh and innovative approach to the project were also highlighted by the Quantum Team as significant success factors.

With Quantum Foods' IT Team invested in the end goal and involved every step of the project, ensured that the aggressive timelines were met, and the planned objectives reached laying the solid foundation for continued business performance and progress along the digital transformation journey.



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