

EQUINIX CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

LARGE NEW YORK-BASED LEGAL SERVICES FIRM

EQUINIX PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR CLOUD (EPS CLOUD)

A legal services firm spun off from its corporate parent employed EPS Cloud to transform into a powerful cloud-enabled organization.

Overview/Executive Summary

The legal services firm was initially established to provide its corporate parent with operational services in the area of data analytics, integration and reporting. Recognizing a market opportunity for these services, the parent company created a spinoff business unit that could also serve external customers. The shift required the firm to have its own network, IT systems and applications which had to be built from scratch, on an aggressive timetable.

Business Challenge

Driven by their new corporate goals, the firm needed to create an all-new, separate IT infrastructure utilizing as little on-premises space as possible. One proposed solution was to migrate to the cloud, but neither the firm nor the parent company had cloud expertise. Therefore, the firm chose EPS Cloud to transform them into an agile, cloud-enabled organization that would meet the strict business requirements in the fastest time possible.

Approach/Solution

Working with an IT team from the parent company, EPS Cloud created, refined and executed a program plan to successfully launch a robust cloud infrastructure for the legal services firm. The program encompassed both advisory and implementation services featuring the following:

Customer Profile

Large legal services firm initially created to support data analytics, integration and reporting for its corporate parent.

Headquarters

New York City

Advisory Services

The first recommendation was to leverage Amazon Web Services (AWS) as the platform for the firm's infrastructure. EPS Cloud also advised the firm on considerations for:

- Deploying laptops, desktops, mobile devices and supporting elements
- Creating Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and Platform as a Service (PaaS) offerings, as well as using Software as a Service (SaaS) applications
- Implementing all other core technologies including data analytics, consumer products, and systems for organizational, security and operational support

Network and Connectivity Implementation Services

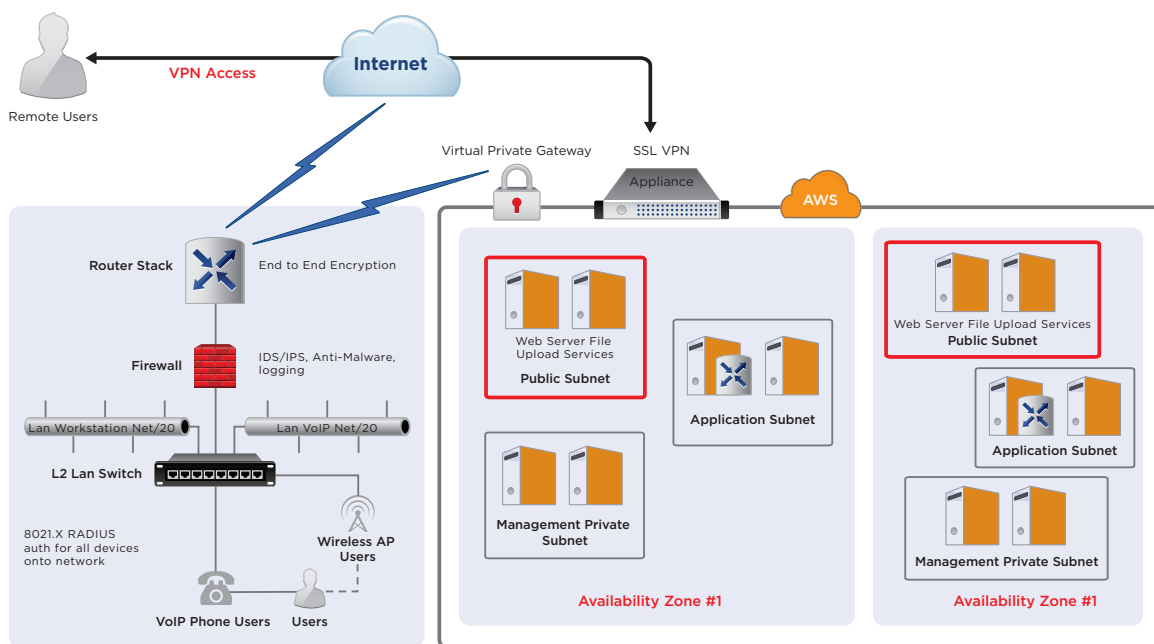
Following a jointly developed plan, the EPS Cloud team performed several services to implement the necessary on-site network equipment and connectivity, including:

- Installing stacked networking switches and clustered firewalls to reduce hardware outages
- Deploying secure WiFi connectivity to reduce the amount of office wiring needed to support employee computers and other devices
- Designing dual Internet service provider (ISP) connections to limit Internet service outages
- Extending access from the office into the virtual private cloud with redundant virtual private network (VPN) connections

Cloud Implementation Services

EPS Cloud consultants also built a cloud data center on AWS to host services for Microsoft Active Directory, databases, file transfer and remote user VPN access. All services in the cloud were built across two availability zones, with daily snapshots for business continuity and disaster recovery purposes.

EPS Cloud also recommended and implemented the Microsoft Office 365 solution, instead of a traditional e-mail platform such as an on-premises Microsoft Exchange server. To help with the user transition to the new network and applications, EPS Cloud provided 24/7 support for the initial few months of the program.



Multiple Network Connections

Expected Business Benefits and Results

Faster time to market – As a new entrant into its marketplace, the legal services firm needed to begin operations quickly. The cloud solution involved significantly less time and effort to implement than a traditional, on-premises infrastructure.

Lower total cost of ownership – Less on-site equipment and desktop software replaced with cloud applications reduces the firm's ongoing maintenance and support costs.

Flexibility and easy scalability – A virtual private cloud ensures a minimal office footprint as only networking equipment is installed onsite. The cloud design also increases the availability of services and establishes a framework for the firm's business continuity plan and disaster recovery strategy.

With an easily scalable infrastructure, the virtual cloud can easily keep pace as the firm grows to serve more clients, open new offices and hire more employees. The firm can also scale without affecting day-to-day business operations as users will continue to have the same secure Internet access to cloud applications.

Technology Used

- **Amazon Web Services (AWS) for cloud infrastructure**
 - Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) instances
 - Elastic Load Balancing (ELB)
 - Route 53 domain name system
 - AWS marketplace solutions for firewall, VPN, and event monitoring
 - SQL Server and file sharing/transfer
- **Microsoft Office 365 and Azure Active Directory**
- **Software as a service, access control and user desktop applications**

About Equinix Professional Services for Cloud

Equinix Professional Services for Cloud (EPS Cloud) helps enterprises quickly and easily design, implement and optimize IT services to meet ever-changing cloud needs. All services and recommendations are carrier, service provider and technology neutral, ensuring every solution best meets each enterprise's unique business demands.

Learn more at
Equinix.com/epscloud

EPS Cloud
Main: +1.212.202.5800
Email: epssales@equinix.com