



VOX: case study

VOX is a brand whose purpose is to provide comprehensive interior solutions tailored to the lifestyles of homeowners. VOX's portfolio includes furniture, doors, floor and wall systems, decorative items, and facades. Taking care of customer needs is the guiding principle at VOX stores. This is why, during the process of furnishing someone's dream home or apartment, VOX advisors rely on modern tools. These include the interior design program VOXBOX which, together with VR glasses, allows one to visualize and 'feel' the interior they have been dreaming of.

For several years, VOX has been undergoing a process of integration and in-depth transformation of its business model. On the Polish market, VOX is perceived as one of the most innovative brands in the interior design and home fit-out industry, and the new strategy allows it to successfully nurture this image in foreign markets. Currently, VOX brand products are available in more than 60 countries around the world.

Challenges

Truly dynamic growth and globalization of the VOX brand necessitates creation of such a work environment that supports providing technical solutions for sales, warehousing, logistics, and production processes. High availability of IT systems and their flexibility in development are the hallmarks of cloud solutions, which VOX now uses.

OChK became the brand's partner to carry out the project of moving its main SAP system and web applications to Google Cloud. Thanks to OChK experts and the companies participating in the project, it was possible to automate the production migration process as much as possible and (during an earlier trial migration) assess the resources needed, estimate the costs, optimize the environment, and take advantage of new services that facilitate and accelerate the operation and development of VOX applications.

To carry out the project, the public Google Cloud Platform was used, within which the following services were activated:

- Cloud CDN Load
- Balancer Cloud
- Armor
- Compute Engine
- Cloud DNS
- Hybrid Connectivity / HA VPN , Interconnect
- Backup Multi Region



Solutions

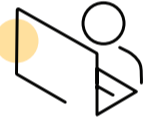
Taking advantage of the services available on Google Cloud allowed to carry out the migration from a local data center to the cloud. During the migration, new services were launched that had not been previously used by VOX.



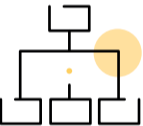
The launch of **Cloud CDN** and **Load Balancer** allowed to achieve faster access to web applications from various corners of the world and improved the performance of VOX web applications themselves.



Hybrid Connectivity services ensure great access to resources on Google Cloud from all VOX locations around the world



The Compute Engine service helped to migrate and put into operation the current SAP production environment as well as historical SAP systems.



In addition, other servers based on **Microsoft** and **Linux** systems were migrated too.

Technology partner

To migrate the SAP environment, another company, 7 Technology, was additionally involved. Its task was to work out a way to migrate the SAP environment and other IT infrastructure servers to GCP. At the stage of PoC, the migration method proposed by 7 Technology was tested.

As a result of the test migration, all the SAP and infrastructure systems supposed to be moved to GCP were migrated. This solution made it possible to estimate the cost of infrastructure on Google Cloud Platform and the time needed for migration. It also made it possible to test the performance of the migrated systems.

7 Technology, with the participation of VOX employees, prepared the production migration schedule. During the production migration, it was also responsible for:

- migrating SAP virtual servers and IT infrastructure
- activating SAP systems in the new environment
- preparing/updating the migration schedule
- performance testing of the SAP systems
- launching the backup of databases and virtual systems

increased speeds of launching new virtual machines as well as invoking new resources and services thanks to easy access to resources such as: RAM, CPU, storage.

accelerated operation of web applications through the use of the Cloud CDN service.

ability to quickly temporarily increase performance of the systems.

launch of a multi-region backup, so that copies of systems and data are located at different Data Centers within the European Union.

quicker access to web applications from various parts of the world through the use of the Load Balancer service (e.g. from a VOX location in Mexico to VOX resources in the cloud – compared to the previous data center, the response time was reduced from 128 ms to 32 ms).

Migration results

Work with OChK experts was really smooth. Together with administrators from VOX, specialists from Google Cloud, 7 Technology, and Intalio, they formed a single team that implemented individual stages of the project in its successive iterations. Applied solutions accelerated and automated the team's work during the production migration of the systems. During project execution, they managed to optimize the resources used as well as take advantage of new services. Since 2020, VOX has been undergoing a major transformation of its work model, especially in terms of new technologies. Self-organized interdisciplinary teams are jointly responsible for digitization of the company's processes. The use of cloud technologies and services significantly facilitates and accelerates the process of producing new solutions.

“Together with experts from OChK, Google, and 7 Technology, we managed to carry out Poland's first migration of an SAP system to Google Cloud. It gave us high accessibility to our main system from various places around the world, great flexibility in scaling the needed resources, and opened a gateway to faster creation of new IT solutions in the digitization of our company's processes”.

Lucyna Michniewicz-Ślaska, CIO of VOX Capital Group

