

Improving performance and protecting data during cloud migration

Xerox leveraged Oracle Cloud VMware Solution (OCVS) and Dell data protection to modernize its IT infrastructure and protect vital data.

Customer profile

xerox

InformationTechnology | United States



“Dell Technologies solutions improved our operational performance and enhanced the experience for our business users.”

Gopi Tatachar

Vice President of Global Hosting and Data Center Services

Business needs

As part of a technology refresh in its data centers, Xerox selected Dell Technologies to provide solutions for its compute, storage and data protection requirements. The cloud-first refresh included OCVS and Dell data protection to mitigate end-of-life risks and safeguard sensitive business and customer data.

Business results

- Delivered 97% virtualization and consolidated rack units by 80%
- Reduced power and cooling consumption in data centers
- Segregates the company’s production and non-production environments
- Standardizes on one global data protection platform for efficiency
- Provides long-term retention of data in the Oracle Cloud VMware Solution

Solutions at a glance

- [Oracle Cloud VMware Solution \(OCVS\)](#)
- [Dell PowerProtect Data Manager](#)
- [Dell PowerProtect DD series appliances](#)
- [Dell PowerMax](#)
- [VMware solutions](#)

For more than 100 years, Xerox has helped define the workplace experience. A leader in office and production print technology, the company has expanded into software and a wide range of technology services to power today's workforce. In addition, Xerox scientists and engineers are continually pioneering developments in digital transformation, augmented reality and more.

When Gopi Tatachar, Vice President of global hosting and data center services, joined Xerox in 2019, his goal was to implement a cloud-first vision — moving more applications and workloads to the cloud, while building a new data center-as-a-service model to create agility for other solutions.

To accomplish this, Tatachar needed to establish a new cultural paradigm and take a number of steps before achieving the final vision.

- Refresh legacy compute and optimize the environment by migrating to virtual platforms
- Upgrade and refresh the company's storage devices
- Update aging network devices

"Eliminating end-of-life risks for both hardware and software, protecting business-critical data, enhancing data security and bringing operational efficiencies were priorities of mine when I started with Xerox," Tatachar says. "In addition, our production and non-production workloads were running on the same compute farm without segregation, and we had three or four different tools for data protection worldwide — which wasn't ideal."

Optimize the environment to the cloud

Initially, Tatachar and his global infrastructure product support team consolidated and virtualized Xerox's on-premises IT infrastructure, while the company's network services team refreshed the back-end fabric. This enabled Xerox to achieve 97% virtualization and consolidate the number of rack units by 80%.

"Working with Dell Technologies improved our operational performance and enhanced the experience for our business users," notes Tatachar.

At the same time, Xerox began moving workloads to the Oracle Cloud VMware Solution (OCVS). OCVS delivers significantly enhanced performance for the company's workloads, especially large databases. The migration process has been quick, easy and painless with the help of OCVS.

Xerox relies on Dell data protection products to protect its critical Oracle workloads, SQL Server databases and other cloud-native applications and data.



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“Data protection is extremely important for Xerox,” Tatachar relates. “PowerProtect Data Manager lets Xerox standardize on one global data protection platform to simplify activities for our operational teams.”

He continues, “The solution works in tandem with PowerMax storage, providing server-less backup directly to Dell PowerProtect DD series appliances. With PowerProtect Data Manager, we get seamless protection of our most sensitive data in the Oracle cloud and more.”

Multicloud enablement

Tatachar’s team takes advantage of the flexibility to place workloads where they make the most sense — for now, on premises, in the company’s data center-as-a-service environment or on the OCVS platform. But in the future, Xerox will look to further include the public cloud as an opportunity.

“VMware vMotion and other tools make it easy,” remarks Tatachar. “I can intelligently direct workloads to wherever they’ll perform best and protect them using PowerProtect Data Manager — whether that’s on-premise, on the OCVS platform, or in AWS, Azure or Google.”

In addition, Tatachar cited the ability of PowerProtect Data Manager to protect modern workloads as required. He explains, “We have pockets of teams that need to spin up Kubernetes clusters — I think that’s going to grow as more development teams look at platform-as-a-service offerings.”

Increased automation for self-service

The company’s modern infrastructure also provides opportunities for automation and offers self-service capabilities to a number of Xerox teams. Among the automation tools that Xerox relies on are Red Hat Ansible and Scalr for cloud orchestration.

For example, within Xerox Managed Print Services — which taps cloud technologies, digitization, analytics and security to help customers design and manage more high-performing workplaces — the company’s in-house engineering team can spin up their own virtual machines and manage workloads — with infrastructure and application support as needed from Tatachar and his team.



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“IT automation is critical for Xerox,” Tatachar states. “In addition to automating repetitive operational tasks, we’re driving the team to adopt Infrastructure-as-a-code methodologies and leveraging modern tools to take advantage of the state-of-the-art capabilities of Dell Technologies platforms such as Dell PowerEdge MX7000 compute, PowerMax and PowerProtect Data Manager.”

He concludes, “This enables our team to focus on innovation rather than just infrastructure support, so we can deliver benefits to our customers — including the data security and protection that they rely on from Xerox solutions.”

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