Paysafe moves the SAP Landscape to Microsoft Azure

Case Study: Finance

The SAP landscape move from their own data centers to Microsoft Azure was one big step to shut down the own data centers.

Paysafe Group (Paysafe) is as leading integrated payments platform. Its core purpose is to enable businesses and consumers to connect and transact seamlessly through industry-leading capabilities in payment processing, digital wallet, and online cash solutions. With over 20 years of online payment experience, an annualized transactional volume of over US $98 billion in 2019, and approximately 3,000 employees located in 12+ global locations, Paysafe connects businesses and consumers across 70 payment types in over 40 currencies around the world. Delivered through an integrated platform, Paysafe solutions are geared toward mobile-initiated transactions, real-time analytics and the convergence between brick-and-mortar and online payments.

Paysafe decided company-wide to close their own data centers. For the SAP environment they used two datacenter sites in different European countries. There were different reasons to run two datacenter sites:

- High Availability
- Disaster Recovery
- Best possible connection to the main offices

They had a primary datacenter site, used as home base for the production environment. The second datacenter site was the home of the non-production environment. In the case of disaster, the non-production site was planned also as the disaster site.

The main goal of the project was to migrate the SAP landscape into the cloud with all main benefits that they had in their own data centers and even more.

The project started with an assessment of the target scenario and of the future needs - using the Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework. The Microsoft Fasttrack team supported the team in the design and planning phase and also throughout the project. After the decisions for the datacenter sites, the needed features and the required performance needs were done – the whole architecture was finished, and the project team received a go through Paysafe's management team.

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From a task-based perspective – the project was delivered in the following steps:

- Workshop-phase
- Planning-phase
- Test migration
    - Migration itself
    - Integration testing of all interfaces (payment systems, reporting…)
    - Performance testing
- Learn from the test migration and adapt the learnings for the production migration
- Production migration
    - supported through SAP HANA System Replication to minimize the HANA database downtimes

The result: Paysafe's SAP landscape is now running in Microsoft Azure. The landscape has all benefits from their own datacenter and is more performant than the old one. It's easy scale- and adaptable. After the successful SAP move through CrossIT, three other applications were migrated to Azure with no worries about the sizing and availability. The project was finished with a successful disaster recovery test:

The SAP landscape was switched from the production datacenter site to the disaster datacenter site and back.

Consultancy-, Implementation- and Operations-Partner for Paysafe: CrossIT

Listing of the technology used:
- Azure Services
    - Azure Key Vault
    - Network Security Groups
    - Azure Site Recovery
- Azure VM-types
    - D-Server DS2_v2, DS4_v2, D4s_v3, D16s_v3
    - E-Server E4s_v3, E8s_v3, E8ds_v4,
    - M-Server M32ts, M64ms, M128s
- Running Applications in Azure
    - SAP HANA, BW, ERP, BO, Solution Manager
    - Terminal server
    - Easy Archive
    - File signer
- Azure ExpressRoute/VPN
- Azure Premium Storage
- Microsoft Windows
- Microsoft SQL Server
- HANA database
- Red Hat Linux

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