FUJITSU

Case study
University Records Center Ltd.

»University Records Center Ltd. standardizes and puts into data form record formats that differ by university. This is a revolutionary mechanism with advantages for students, companies and universities.«

Taichiro Tsuji, Director, University Records Center Ltd.

The customer

Country: Japan
Industry: Information Technology
Founded: 2010
Website: http://dscenter.co.jp/

大学成績センター

The System Integrator

Country: Japan
Company : SYNC CORPORATION
Founded: 1998
Employees: 98
Website: http://www.sync.co.jp/

The challenge

University Records Center Ltd. needed a scalable environment capable of hosting its University Records Data Service. The new system would need to be built and in place by the start of the graduate job hunting season, and would need to be flexible enough to cope with changing data volumes.

The solution

Fujitsu Cloud IaaS Trusted Public S5 provides an exclusive virtual platform environment, when needed, from a virtual resource group established within Fujitsu's Data Center. An application development and operating environment that meets the customer's business needs can be built quickly at a low cost.

The customer

University Records Center Ltd. (URC) was set up in 2010 to enable employers to assess the academic results of Japanese universities.

"There is an issue with employers having a low expectations and a lack of trust in university results," says Director Taichiro Tsuji. "Employers tend to focus on extracurricular activities rather than university grade points. As a result, Japanese students tend to neglect the academic side of the university experience. We want to create an atmosphere in which students can dedicate themselves to their studies."

URC hopes to address this issue. "University Records Data Service allows companies to view university records," explains Mr. Tsuji. "It standardizes and puts into data form record formats that differ by university, and puts record reliability into visual form. Students can save their records for free, and can easily send them to recruiting companies. This is a revolutionary mechanism with advantages for students, companies and universities.

The challenge

To work, URC needed a scalable environment capable of hosting its University Records Data Service. The new system would need to be built and in place by the start of the graduate job hunting season. It would need to be flexible enough to cope with changing data volumes.

The solution

URC selected FUJITSU Cloud IaaS Trusted Public S5 (TPS5) as its chosen cloud infrastructure. TPS5 allows quick and simple system construction from a dedicated portal. System configuration settings can also be changed flexibly according to the number of users and time period.

The benefit

- The system scale can be changed to match the business scale
- The cost can be optimized using a pay-as-you-go structure
- Construction is easy using an intuitive and easy to understand GUI which can be introduced smoothly and quickly

Products and services

- Fujitsu Cloud IaaS Trusted Public S5

The benefit

Using the cloud infrastructure, the system scale can be increased easily compared to an on-premises system. The solution allows URC to scale up the system scale to match company growth.

Also, since the cost of TPS5 is pay-as-you-go, it can be used as a system by the customer when needed, in the amount needed. It can increase and decrease resources flexibly, even when URC is expected to have fluctuations in system operation according to student job hunting. When not being used, the system can be stopped, and during peak times, virtual machines can be increased, so cost can be optimized.

University Records Center Service handles a large volume of private student record data important for recruitment activities. System security is crucial. Mr. Tsuji comments: "With Fujitsu, we knew it would be stable and reliable. The secure environment was a significant deciding factor."

Trusted Public S5 had a high operating rate of 99.9998% in 2012.

To meet the tight deadline, the system had to be built quickly. Trusted Public S5 uses an intuitively-operated GUI, meaning customers can build a system by dragging and dropping from the portal. Mr. Toshimitsu Igarashi of Sync. Inc., in charge of system construction for URC comments: "We introduced this functionality after doing several simulations using in-house servers. With Trusted Public S5, the GUI is easy to understand and delivers a smooth operating experience – even for those with limited experience of infrastructure builds. It's possible for one person to do the build on their own."

With Trusted Public S5, a building template is selected from the portal. The system can then be built simply by selecting the network connection method, and the server, disk, etc. After deployment is completed, use may be possible within an hour.

Conclusion

"The cloud construction by the System Integrator went extremely smooth," says Mr. Tsuji. "It was completed in two weeks."

Trial use started in June 2013, just six months after the conception of the original business model. The system went into full scale operation from December of that year with the start of the job hunting season. Many major companies participated despite it being the first year.

The system has been operating stably since then without trouble. URC hopes to expand to the system to be used by 400,000 to 500,000 students and more than 1,000 companies. Fujitsu's solution is contributing to creating a new infrastructure for resolving the problems of university education and job hunting.

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