



Transitioning to Cloud - Office 365

THE CLIENT

WaterSafe Auckland Inc
Single site

INDUSTRY

Charity
Aquatic Education and Safety

THE BUSINESS NEED

- Aged unsupported hardware
- Excessive Break/Fix costs of workstations
- ICT Performance restrictive
- Increasing need for better collaboration on documents

THE SOLUTION

A complete Office 365 solution, SharePoint on-line, Managed Services and backups to Microsoft's Azure Cloud at a fixed monthly cost.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- **IMPROVED PERFORMANCE** - tapping in to a leading edge, dedicated, award-winning enterprise solution. Automated services and latest technologies. Always latest/current software versions.
- **SHARED DOCUMENT COLLABORATION** - ability for several staff to work on the one document at the same time at different locations. No version management and time loss.
- **PEACE OF MIND** - Leverage the experience and knowledge of IT professionals backed by 99.9% uptime SLA guarantee for confidence and performance.
- **KNOWN COSTS** - Subscription model enables fixed monthly billing. No hidden surprises or unexpected bills.

WaterSafe Auckland Inc

WaterSafe Auckland Inc. (WAI) is the lead agency for regional water safety coordination and education in the Auckland region.

As one of the service delivery amenities under the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008, WAI is mandated by the ratepayers of Auckland to deliver the best possible water safety education to meet the water safety needs of those living in and visiting the region.

The Need for Change

Watersafe had been a Managed Services customer of Softsource for many years, enjoying a managed Server solution that met all the necessary IT systems maintenance and support requirements.

Watersafe's solution however, was based around Microsoft's unsupported Small Business Server platform, with aging hardware and legacy software which were beginning to cause efficiency issues. Additionally, break-fix costs being incurred on unmanaged workstations were steadily increasing and needed to be curbed.

WaterSafe were keen to explore potential cloud solutions with the intention of moving their business model to a more scalable, flexible platform. Microsoft's Office 365 fitted the mandate exactly and as a registered charity, WaterSafe were able to access Microsoft's charity pricing structure and receive a discounted Office 365 offering.



Cost Savings

By deploying Office 365, WaterSafe were able to remove their dependence on an in-house server, transferring their mail and file storage to the cloud. Having 3rd party software such as MYOB located on a single office computer, met WaterSafe's single access requirement and removed the server need completely thus saving WaterSafe the cost of replacing the existing Server.

Business Anywhere

Microsoft Office 365 supplies a seamless working experience no matter the location, be it in the office, or working from any WiFi hotspot or 3G mobile connection. WaterSafe staff can now access their mail, shared calendars and contacts from their home computer and collaborate on documents from any site.

Improved Efficiencies

With Office 365 all users are on the latest version of software at all times. No more software conflicts or time wasted managing multiple copies of a file. Staff can now make use of the latest Office productivity tools, enabling tasks to be completed more efficiently. The deployment of SharePoint ultimately helps with improved collaboration between team members, enabling WaterSafe to have several staff working on a single version of a document, coordinating changes and saving time!

Peace of Mind

WaterSafe's workstations (PCs and Notebooks) are automatically backed up daily to Microsoft's Azure Cloud daily, simplifying internal processes and freeing up IT resources to focus on delivering value back to the business rather than repetitive administrative tasks.

Office 365 users receive protection against malware, spam, and phishing, while gaining peace of mind knowing their files are safe and backed by a 99.9 percent uptime guarantee.

WaterSafe is thrilled to have made the transition to Office 365 and are enjoying having a more resilient, efficient business solution to empower our staff.

In Switching to SharePoint, we have started to see greater efficiencies and time saving where group input is required. We believe the true value of SharePoint will emerge when all staff have undertaken basic training to familiarise themselves more fully with SharePoint capabilities. Having the latest version of productivity software and all staff on the same version has removed legacy compatibility and performance issues.

The move to Office 365 has basically given us the best tools to enable us to get on and do what we are here to do – improve water safety within Auckland, without IT distractions.

*Rushdee Warley | General Manager (Acting)
WaterSafe Auckland Inc - "WAI"*

