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IPS partners with Logical Front to secure and simplify design/build collaboration.



CASE STUDY: IPS-Integrated Project Services, LLC

The Challenge:

- Pharmaceutical construction project required process documentation and security
- Secure, real-time information sharing was needed for remote collaboration
- On-site WAN wasn't adequate for opening engineering models

The Solution:

- Logical Front IT services for VDI/client configuration
- Dell servers for centralized BIM application and data storage
- Citrix for remote access to model data and documentation

The Result:

- Configured and deployed a custom VDI solution within four weeks
- Tracked model revisions to eliminate review of outdated information
- Boosted stakeholder confidence in documentation and information sharing

About IPS:

IPS-Integrated Project Services, LLC (IPS) is a global provider of technical consulting, design, engineering, construction, project controls, commissioning and qualification services for technically complex development and manufacturing facilities worldwide. IPS, headquartered in Blue Bell, PA has 18 offices in 8 countries.

Design/Build Collaboration Yields Better Building Outcomes.

IPS differentiates itself through its ability to complete construction projects by applying the right combination of knowledge, skill and passion to every job. This dedication was put to the test when a client asked the company to collaborate with outside vendors on an existing modification retrofit that involved a complex pharmaceutical buildout.

The request required the temporary setup of a remote office, where collaborators could open and review large Revit® Building Information Modeling (BIM) files updated by engineers with design changes and modifications.

“We didn’t want people downloading BIM files from SharePoint or email and working with them locally on their devices. If they pulled the wrong version of the model, changes could be missed and the project could be impacted,” explains Martin Figlarz, CAD/BIM Manager for IPS.

To add complexity to the task, pharmaceutical regulations included many requirements for documentation and access security, so every aspect of the job needed to be tracked and managed, from design iterations and reviews to approvals and more.

A Dell-based solution for seamless sharing.

Figlarz wanted to work with a Dell Premier Partner, so he reached out to Logical Front for a Dell client-based solution. After evaluating the project requirements, Logical Front’s technologists realized that an enterprise approach would better satisfy its needs.

“This was something we had never done before and Logical Front responded. The same day I reached out, they were helping us to resolve issues,” says Figlarz.

Logical Front customized a virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) configuration that included Dell Compellent SCv2020 SAN for centralized storage of BIM data at IPS headquarters in Pennsylvania and Precision Rack 7910 XCTO Servers to host the virtual desktops. Dell Precision M3800 and M4800 mobile workstations along with Dell Latitude E6540 notebooks and Dell Precision 5810XCTO workstations were configured to ensure team mobility and productivity. Citrix was integrated so BIM data could be accessed by any authorized stakeholder on any computer from any location, simply logging in with security credentials.

Any changes made to server-based BIM files were accessible in real time, so everyone who needed it had access to up-to-date information. Logical Front provided all the software updates to ensure that the configuration ran smoothly.

“We want our clients to feel comfortable knowing that we’re not putting information where anyone can get to it; we need it to be stored securely behind a firewall and Logical Front helped make that happen,” adds Figlarz.

And because Logical Front deployed a Dell end-to-end solution, IPS could pick and choose a custom mix of world-class client and VDI technology to deliver excellent outcomes with less cost and seamless integration that would continue to offer business value for years to come.

A partnership for savings and simplicity.

Logical Front took only four weeks to roll out a custom client/VDI solution to help IPS deliver on its project goals. The process included tight coordination between internal IPS staff and Logical Front’s technical experts.

“We set a hard date with our client on this project and we met that hard date, which is very important to us,” says Figlarz.

With Citrix deployed, IPS saved money on the cost of leasing and configuring high-end desktops, since everyone was able to access the information via VDI from existing laptops and computers using their login credentials. They also saved money on the cost and complexity of installing a VPN because reliable internet service connected people to the Citrix app.

Collaboration was simplified because new resources could be brought in to help advance the project past roadblocks—and remote collaborators could work as efficiently as their on-site counterparts because data was accessible on centralized Dell servers.

The VDI/client configuration makes it possible for IPS to launch remote offices quickly and deploy resources reliably to any stakeholder, anywhere. As a result, they can extend their international reach and support global offices with domestic IT services.

“What stands out to me with Logical Front is their focus on making IPS better and putting technology knowledge into our hands,” explains Figlarz. “We want to do some things on our own and have a partner we can rely on—and Logical Front makes this possible.”

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Martin Figlarz
CAD/BIM Manager, IPS

[Contact Logical Front](#) to learn more about our best-in-class IT design and engineering solutions and Dell Premier Partner expertise.

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