



Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza Moves to Office 365 in Anticipation of Future Growth

Unique restaurant experiences growth, causing the need for innovative technology, which ensures security and enhanced collaboration.

Company Overview

Unveiled in 2002 and headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Anthony's Cold Fire Pizza (ACFP), introduced the taste of coal oven pizza to South Floridians, and has since expanded throughout Florida, Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Founder, Anthony Bruno, attributes his success to a combination of top-quality ingredients, a simple, consistent menu, authentic coal ovens, and a staff that treats guests like "family." ACFP is continuing to grow, and has plans to open up several new locations throughout 2015.

Challenge

Because of the organization's rapid growth, having a technology growth strategy in place quickly became a priority for ACFP. After considering issues such as inconsistency, instability and disparate communication, the organization realized using their current email platform and server vendor was no longer an option. It became a necessity for ACFP to actually 'own' their data, consider security issues, and truly embrace the growth they were experiencing by moving to a platform that was cohesive with the organization's future plans.

Solution

When pursuing their migration project, Tim Shaw – Director of Technology at ACFP – considered a few different solutions. Google, Microsoft, and another [smaller] company were proposed to the organization's executives, with a unanimous final decision for Office 365. "We were in pursue of a true organizational flow of data – calendars, email, documents, everything – giving us a sense of full functionality," stated Shaw.

In addition, ACFP did not want to own any servers or hardware, realizing the security and reliability of the cloud. Instead of reinvesting year after year in hardware, maintenance, etc., or even purchasing licenses up front

"The value of their technical team was astonishing. Not only were they experts in their field, but collaboration throughout the entire project also went smoothly. Working with a third party company isn't always easy, so the diligence of their staff was more than impressive."

-Tim Shaw
Director of Technology



Executive Summary



Client

Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza (ACFP) introduced the taste of coal oven pizza to South Floridians, and has since expanded throughout five states, including NY and NJ.

Challenge

ACFP wanted to migrate 100 users to Office 365 in order to ensure security and consistency, something their current environment lacked.

Solution

Strategic SaaS helped ACFP fully migrate to Office 365. Strategic SaaS planned ahead by getting to know their current environment, being adaptive and communicative along the way.

Results

As a result of the migration, ACFP not only reduced collaboration issues amongst users throughout 5 states, but also improved their organizational processes. In addition, their new, secure and transparent technology environment has taken a lot off of their plate from a compliance standpoint.

in one big lump sum, the organization wanted to take advantage of the Office 365 subscription model. "For us this was simple," said Shaw. "Budgeting for Office 365 was a lot easier than budgeting for sporadic hardware, maintenance, and software updates."

When seeking an organization to perform their migration, ACFP wanted to work alongside a company with Office 365 expertise – a company that had good experience, had worked with companies of similar size, and could perform all of the work remotely. "I had past migration experience, but being spread across 5 states, I didn't want to have to physically touch every computer," Shaw mentioned. "So instead of reinventing the wheel, I found Strategic SaaS, a company that could bring their knowledge in-house, remotely, making sure the entire environment was set up properly."

When beginning the project, Strategic SaaS collaborated with the ACFP team to retrieve any necessary information and get to know their current environment in order to better plan for the migration. Using an adaptive approach, Strategic SaaS tweaked their processes throughout in order to satisfy any restrictions and make room for any surprises for the older servers ACFP was currently running on.

Results

As a result of migrating 100 users to Office 365 without any glitches, Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza has both improved their organizational processes and created a secure and transparent technology environment. "The big thing for us came from a compliance standpoint. We own our data now, and have an agreement with Microsoft. Not only do we have business process security in place now, but our users also now have access to their data wherever they need it. It's easier than ever before," Shaw commented.



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