

Enabling application modernization through containers for Intellect Design Arena

Client profile

Intellect Design Arena is a global leader in Financial Technology for Banking, Insurance and other Financial Services.

With a rich suite of products across the organization and processing over 10 million transactions a day – they are an authority on vertical and integrated products that enable institutions to meet their ambition to be the principal service provider to their customers.

They're committed to take banking into the future, by anticipating and solving the needs of tomorrow's businesses.

Which services?

- NTT Containers-as-a-Service (CaaS)
- Red Hat OpenShift deployed on NTT SimpliVPC on-demand Private Cloud
- Kubernetes (K8s) deployed on NTT SimpliCloud elastic public cloud
- Platform-delivered Managed and Security Services
- OpenShift Management
- Kubernetes Management
- Software License provisioning and management

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Using NTT's CaaS platform, we've been able to deploy agile, cloud-native microservices while simultaneously reducing our cost and operational overheads by over 30%.

Andrew Winston, Senior Vice President, Intellect Design Arena

Summary

Intellect Design Arena creates financial technologies that help banks lead businesses on the path to growth and success. Their products and services allow their clients to deploy solutions that are unique to the bank in question, and enable rich insights and analytics | in real-time, enabling banks to make better decisions faster.

As market leaders in a competitive environment, Intellect recognized that to maintain their competitive edge they'd need to enhance their application design methodologies by significantly improving how efficiently and quickly applications could be built, tested and deployed – but without increasing their infrastructure overheads in doing so.

To achieve this goal, Intellect selected NTT's Managed Containers-as-a-Service offering which would enable them to deploy secure, managed container clusters on NTT's Hybrid Cloud platform, which enabled them to boost productivity through application modernization while simultaneously lowering their costs.

Business need

Embracing a cloud-native approach to build, test and deploy applications – while lowering infrastructure overheads

Intellect wanted to enable developers spread across different domains to build applications that were more secure and scalable with great agility. Applications would need to be rapidly deployed, patched and scaled in order to accelerate development, test and production cycles.

To achieve this, Intellect would need to move away from an existing virtual-machine environment – a move that involved significant complexity.

As experts in the application development space, Intellect wanted to focus on their core expertise without having to maintain and operate the underlying container and microservices.

Another challenge to consider was cost – as a leader in a competitive space – Intellect needed to ensure that the refactoring efforts would be justified by lower operational and cost overheads going forward.

Solution

A solution-led approach toward application modernization

The engagement began with NTT and Intellect conducting joint workshops to define objectives with clear outcomes. Over the course of these workshops, NTT was able to demonstrate the performance and cost benefits of their managed, secure Containers-as-a-Service offering deployed on both Red Hat OpenShift as well as Kubernetes (K8s) – providing fully automated operations for managing hybrid and multicloud deployments.

Leveraging on-demand hybrid cloud for performance and cost efficiencies

Intellect's container clusters are distributed across NTT's on-demand SimpliCloud and SimpliVPC cloud platforms, allowing Intellect the freedom to choose from multiple always-on, instantly available cloud platform options each time they want to deploy (or redeploy) a container cluster.

This hybrid cloud model means that not only can containers be deployed across multiple on-demand cloud platforms – both public and private – but Intellect can instantly migrate and redeploy applications within these cloud platforms seamlessly.

This was a key element of consideration for Intellect as it allows them to choose from multiple cloud execution venues based on specific project requirements while meeting business objectives.

Establishing continuous integration and delivery (CI/CD) and DevOps approach

The company worked with NTT's solution architects to create and operate container clusters that automate and accelerate project development from start to production delivery.

Intellect's developers, operations, and other staff are now able to effectively collaborate on new features and services to bring customers faster, more engaging experiences.

Outcomes

Leveraging an agile partnership

Adopting a more agile, collaborative DevOps approach supported by NTT's CaaS services has helped Intellect Design Arena's developers, architects, infrastructure experts, and platform teams to work together more effectively to build and update innovative products and services, and to maintain their standing as a leading provider of financial technologies.

- **Agility and velocity:** Combining CI / CD with NTT's CaaS platform running OpenShift has allowed Intellect to reach much faster delivery to market, enhanced scalability, and enabled automation across their cloud landscape.
- **Business focus:** NTT's managed CaaS platform running gives Intellect the flexibility and ease of use to deploy applications quickly, so their developers can spend time creating innovation for their customers, not on operational tasks.
- **Efficiency:** Moving from a competitive public cloud platform to NTT's Hybrid Cloud CaaS platform created significant performance efficiencies for Intellect, and lowered costs by over 30%.



NTT's been the perfect partner to help us modernize our applications and infrastructure.

Andrew Winston, Senior Vice President, Intellect Design Arena