

## ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS

OFFICE DEALERSHIP  
SUCCESS STORY

# EXTENDING LEGACY, ON-PREMISES SYSTEMS TO THE CLOUD

## One Path to Cloud Adoption: Littered with Passwords and Plagued by Hurricanes

### About the Client

Workscapes, a woman-owned business, is a full-service office dealership that provides furniture, architectural products and space planning. Like many organizations today, this client wanted to extend their legacy, on-premises system to cloud services and provide single sign-on capabilities for their employees.

Additionally, because Workscapes is based in Florida, there is a higher risk of environmental challenges such as hurricanes, which can disrupt access to local resources. Integrating the organization's two active directories would ensure business continuity in the event of a natural disaster.

### Their Challenge

Workscapes had long wanted to provide their end users with a better experience, which included faster sign-on and seamless, more accurate access to the resources they needed – including Office 365 and various programs and applications – whenever, wherever. Also, users had many different passwords to remember. The organization recognized this was not a best practice in terms of security, plus it created more need for IT support when users forgot their passwords.

### OVERVIEW

#### Industry

Office Planning and Furnishing Business

#### Client Profile

Workscapes is a full-service office dealership based in Florida offering furniture, architectural products and space planning.

#### Business Situation

Client wanted to provide a better user experience by enabling single sign-on capabilities for both local and cloud-based IT resource services.

#### Solution

ITsavvy configured a custom solution by integrating Azure Active Directory with their legacy, on-premises Active Directory, enabling service resiliency.

#### Benefits

- > Eliminated multiple sign-ons for employees
- > Increased user productivity and efficiency
- > Decreased IT support related to forgotten passwords
- > Ensured business continuity in the event of a natural disaster, common in the Florida area
- > Kicked off a phased migration to cloud services adoption

Further, hurricane season could result in a loss of power for 24 hours or more and take out their network. The company determined that they needed to extend their legacy infrastructure to the cloud. But like many organizations, the firm needed a highly qualified cloud solutions partner to facilitate services integration, one that understood the need for help, and turned to ITsavvy.

Our team met with Workscapes's IT leadership and quickly determined that this particular cloud adoption initiative would require a custom integration to bridge the existing infrastructure with the cloud.

While many companies are experts in their legacy environment, cloud adoption requires a deep understanding of the interdependencies between both legacy systems and cloud, with an ability to predict, design and engineer for potential challenges, both at the time of integration and for the future. ITsavvy has the specialized engineering expertise and experience to help clients anticipate and plan for potential challenges and ensure a seamless transition.

We also recommended single sign-on with only one password for users to remember, which would help increase productivity and efficiency while enhancing security of their systems and proprietary data.

## Our Solution

After consulting with Workscapes, listening carefully to their objectives, and making our recommendations, ITsavvy designed and implemented a custom Azure integration with their legacy, on-premises active directory. This included:

- Configuration of their local IT sync with on-premises active directory
- End user single sign-on capabilities between Microsoft Office 365 resources – users sign on once and access all local resources, cloud servers, applications, and Office 365 resources

ITsavvy's custom configuration expertise with cloud resources and legacy infrastructure enabled Workscapes to transition quickly and seamlessly – the project required approximately one week of planning and was completed in one day. Our deep understanding of legacy systems enabled our team to quickly assess potential areas of complexity and undesirable impact for the project.

The team was able to identify and formulate the potential issues and design a configuration to suit, while also making recommendations to

“Shortly after ITsavvy completed the work, a hurricane came through. I called ITsavvy immediately to make sure we were secure in the cloud. Our project manager assured us that we were prepared and he was right. It was great to know that we were ready to ride out the storm.”

Giorgio, Systems Administrator

“I’m a big preacher of self-sufficiency – the sooner the better. ITsavvy did an excellent job of knowledge transfer, and we were quickly up and running on our own. ITsavvy was a great resource to answer any questions that came up along the way.”

Giorgio, Systems Administrator

the client for any changes that would be required in their environment to enable a smoother integration.

ITsavvy's knowledge, best practices and experience helping many companies of various sizes from small to enterprise organizations helped make this project successful and ensured that Workscapes was well positioned for future cloud migration initiatives.

## Their Success

Today, Workscape's users have quick and easy access to both on-premises and cloud resources, when and where they need it. End user experience has improved as the need for multiple passwords and sign-ons has been eliminated and requests for IT support related to forgotten passwords and system lock-outs have decreased.

The system was tested shortly after the implementation was completed, when a hurricane came through Florida. Workscapes Systems Administrator Giorgio contacted ITsavvy to ensure that their systems and team were up for the challenge, and with reassurance in hand, braced for the storm. With ITsavvy and Microsoft Azure, users were able to access their resources in the cloud and it was business as usual – despite the hurricane's impact on client facilities throughout Florida.

Another test came when Workscapes relocated their Miami showroom, which included on-premises servers. During the relocation, users never lost access to their IT resources so there was no down time, and again, it was business as usual.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION,

please contact an ITsavvy Client Executive.

#### **ITsavvy**

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## The ITsavvy Solution

### SOFTWARE

- Microsoft AD Sync

### SOLUTION SERVICES

- Active Directory
- Azure Active Directory
- Microsoft Office 365
- Microsoft Azure

