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Laureate

CATEGORY:
Business Responsiveness

ORGANIZATION:
Castila la Mancha Government

ORGANIZATION URL:
http://www.jccm.es/

PROJECT NAME:
Vblock Castilla la Mancha

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Regional Government of Castilla-La Mancha (Spain) has modernized its technological infrastructures by adopting a new model capable of reducing costs and enhancing flexibility in providing technological services: cloud computing. "Cloud computing provides us significant savings in terms of operating costs and capital, but above all, we can offer new services to citizens and simplify the Administration computing management by sharing resources between all the Council departments of the regional government", explains Agustina Piedrabuena, Castilla-La Mancha Chief Information Officer. This modernization project, pioneer in the Spanish Public Administration, is based on Vblock™ Infrastructure Platform from VCE, the Virtual Computing Environment company formed by Cisco and EMC with investments from VMware and Intel. "We intend to provide multiple services from the Internet cloud for all our Council departments, right across the board", continued Piedrabuena. First of these services is already in full swing. Named Papás 2.0 (Parents 2.0) and led by the Council of Education, it's a program which leverages collaboration between parents, teachers and pupils and facilitates daily work in the IT classrooms of the 21st century school. Council of Education has been offering the Papás tool since 2004, but now it's been renewed by incorporating the "cloud" approach. Teachers can follow the pupil, set tasks and exams or send messages to parents; families also have access to data on their children in terms of marks, duties or absences just through an Internet connection. "Papás 2.0 Virtual Classroom is now a new module giving teachers and pupils the opportunity to incorporate an online collaborative working environment at the school's daily dynamics", says Tomás Hervás, general secretary Council of Education, Science and Culture. In this sense, Papás 2.0 is to be extended to all the Community schools, benefiting 345,000 pupils and their respective families. The new infrastructure, housed in the Council of Presidency and Public Administrators data center, is a private cloud model which provides secure, scalable and highly available services within a shared environment. Blake Salle□, VCE senior vice-president Worldwide Channels and Public Sector, points out: "Traditionally, the Spanish Civil Service has built technological services on

top of its own infrastructures. Castilla-La Mancha is breaking this mould by using a shared data center which makes it possible to implement resources and services for all its councils." Thanks to the Vblock Infrastructure Platform, Castilla-La Mancha has launched Papás 2.0 in just a couple of months, and made it fully operational since November 1st 2010. Also, while unifying networks, storage, computing, management and virtualization into a single, completely scalable and modular infrastructure, Vblock platform will replace about 130 servers, reducing energy consumption and the space and cooling power at the CPD. Finally, Castilla-La Mancha forecasts savings of 20 per cent within the first year. However the more the infrastructure is used, the greater the return on the investment will be; at this time, the infrastructure is at 15 per cent of its full capacity.

SOCIETAL BENEFITS

Cloud computing provides Castilla-La Mancha significant savings in terms of operating costs and capital. Also, it allows offering new services to citizens and easies the Administration management by sharing resources. First service -Papás 2.0 (Parents 2.0)- leverages collaboration between parents, teachers and pupils benefiting 345,000 pupils and their respective families.

PREVIOUS PROJECT UPDATED/EXPANDED?

It's a totally new project pioneer within the public administrations in Spain

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION COMPLETE?

Yes

PROJECT BENEFIT EXAMPLE

Cloud computing provides Castilla-La Mancha significant savings in terms of operating costs and capital. Also, it allows offering new services to citizens and easies the Administration management by sharing resources between all the Council departments which form part of the regional government. First of these services is already in full swing. Named Papás 2.0 (Parents 2.0) and led by the Council of Education, it's a program that leverages collaboration between parents, teachers and pupils and facilitates daily work in the IT classrooms of the 21st century school. Council of Education has been offering the Papás tool since 2004, but now it's been renewed by incorporating the "cloud" approach. Teachers can follow the pupil, set tasks and exams or send messages to parents; families also have access to data on their children in terms of marks, duties or absences just through an Internet connection. "Papás 2.0 Virtual Classroom has now entered the educational arena as a new module that gives teachers and pupils the opportunity to incorporate an online collaborative working environment at the school's daily dynamics", says Tomás Hervás, general secretary Castilla La-Mancha Council of Education, Science and Culture. In this sense, Papás 2.0 is to be extended to all the Community schools, benefiting 345,000 pupils and their respective families. The new infrastructure, housed in the Council of Presidency and Public Administrators data center, is a private cloud model which provides secure, scalable and highly available services within a shared environment. Blake Salle□, VCE senior vice-president Worldwide Channels and Public Sector, points out: "Traditionally, the Spanish Civil Service has always built technological services on top of its own infrastructures. Castilla-La Mancha is breaking this mould by using a shared data center which makes it possible to implement resources and services for all its Councils." Thanks to the Vblock Infrastructure Platform -checked, validated and ready for implementation- Castilla-La Mancha has launched the Papás 2.0 cloud application in just a couple of months, and made it fully operational since 1st November 2010. Also, while unifying networks, storage, computing, management and virtualization into a single, completely scalable and

modular infrastructure, the Vblock platform will replace about 130 servers, reducing energy consumption and the space and cooling power at the CPD. "The project has not only helped us to consolidate and simplify our data center, it also allows us to be completely independent of which department uses the service, where the application is hosted or what resources it consumes; we are simply automating the provision of applications by means of the cloud," says Agustina Piedrabuena, Castilla-La Mancha Chief Information Officer. Besides, Castilla-La Mancha forecasts savings of 20 per cent within the first year. However the more the infrastructure is used, the greater the return on the investment will be; at this time, the infrastructure is at 15 per cent of its full capacity.

IS THIS PROJECT AN INNOVATION, BEST PRACTICE? Yes

ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

VCE, the Virtual Computing Environment company formed by Cisco and EMC with investments from VMware and Intel, represents an unprecedented level of collaboration in development, services and partner enablement by four established market and technology leaders. VCE accelerates the adoption of converged infrastructure and cloud-based computing models that dramatically reduce IT costs while improving time to market for customers. VCE, through the Vblock platform, delivers the industry's first completely integrated IT offering that combines best-of-breed virtualization, networking, computing, storage and management technologies with end-to-end vendor accountability. VCE's pre-packaged solutions cover horizontal applications, vertical industry offerings, and application development environments, allowing customers to focus on business innovation instead of integrating, validating and managing IT infrastructure.