Firm Integrates Global Workplace with Secure, Virtualized Platform

Client name: Saab Group

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

Industry: Leading aerospace and defense contractor
focused on innovation and security

DXC.technology

Challenge:
- Modernize workplace applications globally
- Ensure network security across all devices

Solution
- DXC's network integration services
- DXC's IT and application management services

Results
- Introduced secure, virtual network platform
- Standardized practices across global business units

Saab Group, a provider of leading defense and civil security products and services, does business in 32 countries stretching from the Nordics to the southern tip of Africa, and from the United States to Australia.

More than 14,000 employees access the company's networks from the office and out in the field. Network security a key priority for the company, which produces the advanced multi-role Gripen fighter, other manned and unmanned aircraft, as well as radar and missile systems.

Choosing a single IT partner

For more than 13 years, Saab has relied on DXC Technology for mainframe, midrange and network support, as well as application and desktop management.

"We were integrating our different business units and really wanted to move toward one contractor," says Mats Hultin, CIO, Saab Group. "CSC (now DXC) is a big, global company with a good track record within aerospace and defense and a really good security awareness program — those were the key elements that were important to us."

To support the field operations in remote locations, or areas of conflict in which the security of communications is vulnerable, DXC worked with the company to develop and deploy a secure, self-contained network and communications infrastructure, which supported Saab personnel in some 20 countries.

Supporting modernization programs

More recently, the Saab has been focusing on modernizing its application portfolio, including the Microsoft suit of products. At the same time, the IT organization has been under pressure to accommodate remote access through PCs and mobile devices.

"Security is most important to us," Hultin says, "so balancing security, cost- effective solutions and managing that globally — that's the challenge and that's the area where CSC (now DXC) is supporting us a lot."

DXC's network specialists worked with Saab to create a virtual global platform that integrates Microsoft's System Center Configuration Manager with a Citrix architecture.

Logging on from anywhere — securely

The platform enables Saab employees to log on anywhere in the world, access secure resources, and save the work to a virtual server without downloading a local copy to PCs or wireless devices.

"We've been working on modernizing our workplace environment, so we have developed a fully virtualized platform with a built-in mobility solution," Hultin says, "We went through some tough decisions on putting this platform in place, but it really worked out well."

The work on the virtualized platform is serving as the blueprint for Saab's global operations, which include 25 remote business units that must be integrated with the rest of the company.

Integrating multiple business units

"These units have their own background, their own history, and they are highly innovative, small companies," Hultin says.

"Keeping that together with an integrated platform, as well as keeping the integrity of all the security requirements is an area in which CSC (now DXC) is supporting us greatly."

He adds that he appreciates DXC's understanding of the aerospace and defense industry, as well as the company's technical capabilities.

"We see that in CSC's (now DXC's) knowledge of what type of processes and what type of business we are dealing with, and the criticality of what we're doing," he says. "It's just in the veins of what we are doing."

Building on a long-term relationship

The long-term relationship allows the two companies to collaborate at all levels.

"There is good collaboration with the technical people and all the way up to management level, and a good spirit of really solving the end customers' problems and needs," Hultin adds.

"Balancing security, cost- effective solutions and managing that globally — that's the challenge and that's the area where CSC (now DXC) is supporting us a lot."

- Mats Hultin, CIO, Saab Group

For more information about DXC's workplace and network support services, visit [www.csc.com/ workplace_services].

About DXC

DXC Technology (NYSE: DXC) is the world's leading independent, end-to-end IT services company, helping clients harness the power of innovation to thrive on change. Created by the merger of CSC and the Enterprise Services business of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, DXC Technology serves nearly 6,000 private and public sector clients across 70 countries. The company's technology independence, global talent and extensive partner alliance combine to deliver powerful next-generation IT services and solutions. DXC Technology is recognized among the best corporate citizens globally. For more information, visit www.dxc.technology.

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