Digby Brown Solicitors

Driving Growth and Innovation with Cisco Hyperflex

Digby Brown Solicitors is Scotland’s largest personal injury firm. With 7 local offices and more than 270 staff, it’s ranked Band 1 for Personal Injury Law in Scotland by Chambers Guide to the UK Legal Profession and Legal 500. It recovers millions of pounds in compensation each year for clients who have been injured in an accident.

Summary

Name
Digby Brown

Industry
Solicitors

Location
Scotland

Number of employees
270
Client journey

Digby Brown Solicitors sees IT as pivotal to its ability to grow and to be agile in the on-going development and continuous improvement of client services.

Like many businesses experiencing growth in a marketplace where client demand is evolving rapidly due to digitisation, the company needs IT systems that can keep pace. But its infrastructure was aging and the application base had become complex.

“IT is constantly evolving and even for a firm like Digby Brown Solicitors who have always tried to sit close to the cutting edge, quality of service and offerings were starting to fall behind, with the danger of becoming a risk to the firm,” states Graeme Agnew, Director of IT, Digby Brown Solicitors.

Mandated to develop a 3-year IT strategy, Graeme and his team undertook a root and branch assessment of core services. This led to a programme that would completely revamp, simplify and modernise the infrastructure and applications base.

Simplicity and scale

Combining compute, storage, network, virtualisation and data protection into a single appliance, Cisco HyperFlex delivers up to a 90% reduction in operational expenditure.

HyperFlex comes with a subscription-based software model for pay-as-you-grow scalability. Enterprise storage features and data protection can deliver savings of up to 80% by removing the need for complex SAN technology.

“Choosing Cisco HyperFlex and implementing it as a private cloud solution will improve the agility and efficiency of IT across the firm. This in turn will provide benefits around technology simplification and scale,” says Graeme.

“HyperFlex provides resilience in each of the two data centres to remove the likelihood of any single point of failure. Connectivity between the two allows us to replicate data and undertake backups and archiving to ensure we remain operational at all times.”

Fast and flexible

Cisco HyperFlex is deployed in under an hour and comes ready to provide a unified pool of resources to power applications as business needs dictate. The benefits of HyperFlex include:

• Single point of management – easy to manage for the firm’s staff
• Adaptive infrastructure – flexibility to scale as necessary
• Future-proof solution – ability to migrate servers and applications to the cloud without large future investments

“The ability to scale up quickly and undertake component based upgrades is evident,” Graeme confirms. “We are already looking to further invest in HyperFlex and migrate other non-case-management related legacy applications and unstructured data across to it. These will benefit from the resilience and security HyperFlex provides.”

Future ready

The highly available and scalable platform provided by Cisco HyperFlex will allow Digby Brown Solicitors to migrate all infrastructure, servers and applications from the legacy infrastructure over time.

“We still have to manage capacity and growth and so on, but we want to spend a lot more time focused on business outcomes,” says Graeme. “That’s why we took the business decision to invest in something that’s much simpler and more dependable, reliable and scalable.”

Digby Brown Solicitors will continue to focus on what it does best and grow its presence further in the marketplace.

“Digby Brown Solicitors is proud of where it came from and, with the expertise it has across its people, it feels well geared up to be able to continue to deliver excellent client services for people that are unfortunate enough to have had some kind of accident or injury.”

Graeme Agnew
Director of IT, Digby Brown Solicitors LLP