EKCO

CASE STUDY

Building a successful stand-up of a new IT infrastructure after business separation

When KPMG, one of the world's leading professional services firms, sold its UK Insolvency Practice to HIG Capital, this business unit needed to be extracted from KPMG in an aggressive timescale to form a new start-up, Interpath Advisory.

The challenge

Ekco was asked to extract the people and data from a complicated business structure and establish a new infrastructure to support 600 employees across the UK within nine months, across 12 locations, while adhering to stringent regulatory requirements. We were engaged in September 2021, a short time after the Technical Services Agreement (TSA) was put in place.

Interpath needed an agile solution that would improve the quality and speed of service delivery, enable their operation to scale, and futureproof their business. They needed a trusted partner that had experience delivering large-scale infrastructure projects against tight deadlines, as well as knowledge of the critical regulatory requirements that impact Interpath's day-to-day decision-making.

The solution

Our highly skilled team's first order of business was ordering the network connectivity across the country to Interpath's 12 locations. This was achieved through a mix of MPLS and DIA solutions and deciding on the technology to deliver a secure corporate SD-WAN and in-office WiFi solution.

The staged migration of over 13.5 million files from the seller's to the buyer's infrastructure, as well as the migration of data ingestion into Interpath's chosen Document Management system, had to be securely managed.

interpath

Interpath is a financial advisory business with a broad range of specialisms including restructuring, private equity, pensions and tax services.

Offices: 12 UK offices

No. Employees: Over 600

Solution: IaaS Private Cloud, Microsoft Azure, WAN, Microsoft 365, SOC, SIEM, Servers Application Management, NOC Networking, Service Desk, End User Support, DRaaS

"What does a successful infrastructure project look like? It's getting people onto their new laptops, giving them access to their applications, making sure that they deliver an excellent service to our customers and suppliers. All of those things Ekco achieved. Outstanding people, outstanding delivery, and a great outcome."

*Jeremy Warren
Interpath CTO*

Other activities included:
- IT resilience and Disaster Recovery
- Enterprise level security, compliance, and controls
- Data and application migration
- Implementation of security policies
- The imaging and securing of all end user devices
- ITSM tooling to Service Desk resourcing

Preparing for launch

Cut over for the project was on 6 June following the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend, with Programme Managers onsite within the war room. The combined team worked a 24x7 shift pattern over the four-day weekend to migrate everything to the new environment, performing systems integration and user acceptance tests.

The outcome

By the Monday morning, all 600 staff had their devices delivered to their home addresses with a white gloved build so they were all fully operational in the new environment.

All laptops had been configured with the correct user permissions for apps and data, allowing employees to get on with their jobs as usual, with no disruption.

After three weeks of early life support, business-as-usual teams were able to collaborate with end-users through the newly implemented Service Now portal. Over 600 users are now served from the new platform in the Ekco Cloud.

Six months from engagement, all workloads had been right-sized on the Ekco Cloud. Managed SIEM and SOC security services were in place, with Interpath policies applied and governed by a dedicated support desk embedded within Interpath's UK HQ.

End users are now operating in a new M365 tenant with full Voice integration and true work-from-anywhere capability. When the need arises to work from an office or regional HQ, employees connect securely over Wi-Fi and SD-WAN, monitored for availability and security from the SOC.

Twelve months from separation, we continue to support, manage, and work with Interpath in partnership, always with an eye on how we can further enhance our services and our ongoing relationship with this customer.
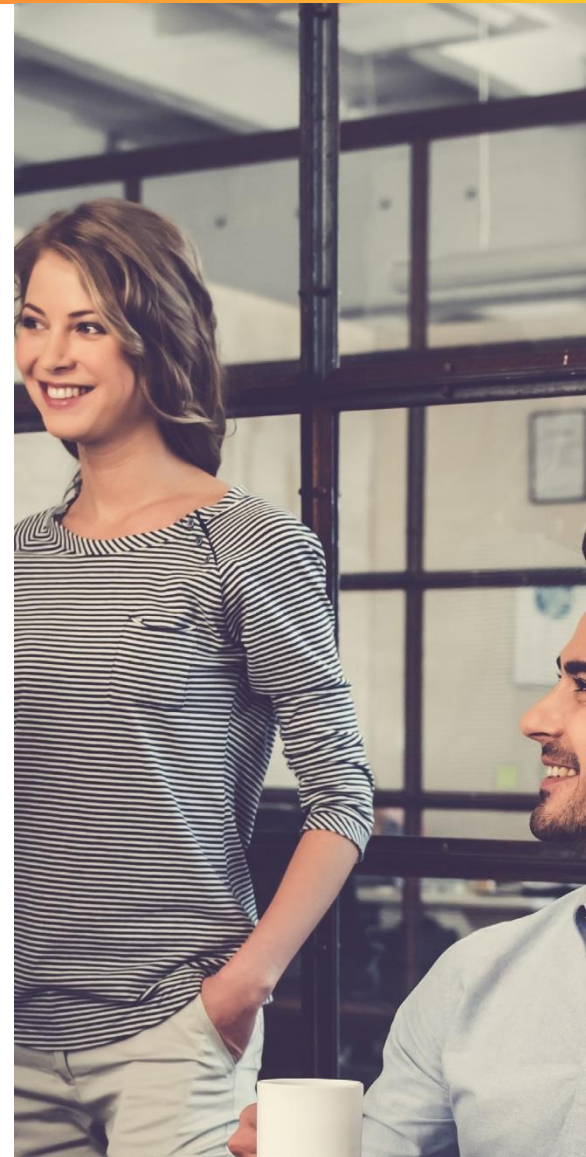
"The Ekco team drove hard to ensure we delivered on our exit plan. The ownership of the project, from Ekco exec to Interpath exec, all the way through to delivery and programme managers, was fantastic. The Ekco team was dedicated to our vision of an outstanding outcome."

Jeremy Warren
Interpath CTO