The cloud, a great ally in the digital transformation of the University of Castilla-La Mancha

UCLM, the pioneering public university in digitalization.

Created in 1985, Castilla-La Mancha University covers a large territory and has several campuses in Ciudad Real, Albacete, Cuenca, and Toledo, as well as offices in Talavera de la Reina and Almadén. It has around 30,000 students and 2,300 professors.

Due to its territorial configuration, this regional public university promoted technology environments very early on, and aspects such as mobility and collaboration are part of its DNA.

The UCLM, which was a pioneer in developing videoconferencing services, clearly advocates for promoting a management and teaching-research activity model based on digital services and accessible and available collaboration environments. That is why in 2011 it began to evolve its technology towards the cloud.
The challenge: monitor multi-cloud loads in Azure

Technological environments in the field of teaching are evolving to a very high level of availability and continuity that a few years ago were difficult to guarantee.

In the digital transformation strategy of Castilla-La Mancha University, the IT area identified the need to increase the percentage of workload in the cloud and carry out a correct migration of systems and services to the cloud. The challenge was to be able to monitor and control that migration.

It is worth noting that, thanks to the commitment to the cloud, at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, UCLM was able to continue its activity with hardly any incidents. In just one weekend, the virtual campus grew in workload by 300%.
The solution

In order to accelerate the monitoring program of UCLM’s migration to the cloud, NTT DATA became the strategic partner for several reasons. On the one hand, for its long trajectory of more than 10 years supporting the university’s infrastructures and technological services from its Infrastructure Services Center in Ciudad Real, and on the other hand, for its extensive knowledge of Microsoft’s Azure Arc platform.

The project, which lasted 1.5 months, fit perfectly with the needs of this university by having the following capabilities:

- **Improve the efficiency** of the university’s IT team activity.
- **Evolve technology** towards a multicloud environment.
- **Centralize security**: establish very specific security roles for infrastructure management, regardless of where resources are located.
- **Homogenize** all the tasks related to availability, management, and capacity in any production service.

NTT DATA remains a key technology partner in the university’s commitment to keeping all its “critical” services (business, virtual campus, collaboration environments, and internet access) available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

This is a pioneering project in the field of public universities, led by Julian de la Morena as Director of Systems at UCLM. Despite the deadlines and legal complexities inherent in administration, UCLM and NTT DATA have been able to carry out this project very successfully.

Andrés Javier Prado Domínguez, UCLM TIC Director
After implementing Microsoft's Azure Arc solution, the following benefits have been achieved.

**To reduce the maintenance cost** of the infrastructure, along with all that it entails in relation to air conditioning or power supply, with savings of up to 40% of installations.

**More accessible services.**

**Increased availability** compared to on-premise deployment environments.

**Scaling IT resources.**

**Ability to measure** services.

**Adaptation of system administrator** roles to the cloud environment.
Next steps: Multi-cloud environment

With this project, the UCLM has become a spearhead in the field of public universities in relation to the migration of systems and services to the cloud in the field of public universities in relation to the migration of systems and services to the cloud.

The evolution of this commitment is towards multi-cloud environments: an intermediate piece that allows its IT team to manage not only hybrid but also different environments to maintain efficiency in the operation and solve the following: the architecture in increasingly efficient and appropriate distributed environments provided by the different providers.

Why NTT DATA?

NTT DATA, part of the NTT Group, is an innovative global IT and business services company headquartered in Tokyo. The company, which employs more than 140,000 professionals, supports its clients in their transformation process through consulting, industry solutions, business process services, digital and IT modernization, and managed services.

More information

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