

Zerto Powers a Large Private Pension Group's Migrations and DR across the UK



Solution (Use Case):
Migrations and DR

Country: United Kingdom

Industry: Finance/Insurance/
Pension

ABOUT THE GROUP

This large UK private pension enterprise has more than 1 million families and members' pensions under management. The group relies on transactional applications that are highly available and highly secure.

Challenges

- Efficiently migrate approximately 300 VMs from old infrastructure and platforms that were dispersed across numerous datacenter locations to newly built, centralized datacenters in two different cities
- Provide faster RPOs for financial transactions
- Protect bespoke tier-0 applications that support investment management services
- Streamline an extremely inefficient, manual disaster recovery (DR) testing process

Solution

- Use Zerto's data migration tool to safely and efficiently move VMs to a new datacenter platform
- Protect file, exchange, and backup services with Zerto for DR
- Perform DR testing with Zerto's automated failover

Zerto Results

- Seamlessly migrated 300 VMs
- Significantly reduced recovery times for critical applications, with sub-five-minute RPOs
- Enabled a highly available application ecosystem
- Streamlined DR testing, providing weeks of saved labor and engineering time
- Provided protection for more than 20 key critical services

Supporting Cross-Country Data Migration and Disaster Recovery with Zerto

When a large private pension group in the UK needed to move their critical infrastructures to new datacenters built from the ground up, they knew they required a cutting-edge migration solution.

Their old infrastructures were dispersed across multiple locations, datacenters, and platforms, and they needed to be migrated to new, centralized locations. In addition, their current DR service was providing RPOs much slower than what their financial transactions required. To provide high-confidence, highly available service—as well as keep up with datacenters re-engineered for high availability—they needed RPOs of minutes, not hours.

The pension group's IT infrastructure and security manager had the perfect solution in mind. From previous industry experience migrating datacenters across the Atlantic, they knew there was one industry leader that could migrate all 300 of the group's VMs with ease: Zerto, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise company.

"We never even went through a request for proposals," says the technical services manager. "We knew what we wanted, and we knew Zerto was the tool to give us that functionality." Using Zerto, the team migrated all 300 of their VMs to datacenters in two cities with great success.

The pension group uses their new datacenters to provide higher availability and more efficient service to more than one million members. Operating out of multiple offices, they provide retirement and ill health benefits, with billions of assets under management. As such, their financial and transactional services require a high degree of availability and confidence.

After the migration was complete, the pension group team quickly saw value in Zerto's disaster recovery features. They began using Zerto for DR to protect their services for bespoke investment management, file storage and sharing, and financial exchange, as well as an SQL backup repository.

"We needed Zerto to do the migration, but at the same time, we had the added benefit of a very good, robust disaster recovery tool," says the technical services manager. "We could now offer sub-five-minute RPOs to the areas of the business that needed them."

RPOs of minutes mean greater security for the pension group's transactional applications, financial exchange, and investment management servers that demand a high level of confidence. Their previous solution couldn't provide the quick RPOs that their business needed.

"Longer RPOs—of up to an hour—just wouldn't be suitable for these requirements," says the technical services manager. "If we didn't have Zerto in place, we would really struggle to deliver any kind of highly available service."

In addition to data migration and disaster recovery, the pension group used Zerto to vastly simplify a cumbersome failover testing process that originally required manual input. By switching from a manual process to Zerto, they saved weeks of testing and labor time, including engineering and architecture time. Confident in the ease and security of Zerto's automated failover, they embarked on a DR testing program and failed over their investment management platform with resounding success.

Through seamless data migration, ongoing disaster recovery support for critical applications, and simple automated failover, Zerto provides this UK pension scheme with the foundation to run an efficient, secure, and protected business. With Zerto and upgraded datacenters, the pension group is better able to provide customers with highly available, high-confidence financial services.

About Zerto

Zerto, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise company, empowers customers to run an always-on business by simplifying the protection, recovery, and mobility of on-premises and cloud applications. Zerto eliminates the risk and complexity of modernization and cloud adoption across private, public, and hybrid deployments. The simple, software-only solution uses continuous data protection at scale to solve for ransomware resilience, disaster recovery, and multi-cloud mobility. Zerto is trusted by over 9,500 customers globally and is powering offerings for Amazon, Google, IBM, Microsoft, and Oracle and more than 350 managed service providers. www.zerto.com

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