

# National Insurance Company Saves Millions With 98% Less Hardware



**How partnering with Azzur Group allowed a national insurance provider to consolidate 1K servers to 20 while maintaining complete security and compliance**



In 2009, a Ward's Top 50 property and liability insurance carrier headquartered out of the eastern United States faced the monumental task of migrating seven data centers located throughout the country to one central data center on the east coast, with one back-up colocation 1,500 miles away in Texas. Moreover, with 50 offices scattered throughout the U.S., a seamless transition with zero business interruptions was non-negotiable.

Not only did the company face the management of secure data center shutdowns and commissioning a new center, but the migration included more than 1,000 servers and more than 500 applications, all housing sensitive, regulated business and client information.

Without in-house resources to manage the migration and validation, the company turned to Azzur Group. With a nationwide network of specialized project managers and engineers, Azzur brought together a qualified team to meet the standards of not only the company, but the regulated insurance industry itself.

The four-year project encompassed a carefully orchestrated migration that ensured the client could carry on business as usual while data centers were transferred across the country, one at a time. A team of more than 15 project managers and specialists worked alongside the client to develop a comprehensive plan that would allow for business continuity throughout the duration of the project.

## The Challenge

Consolidating seven data centers across the U.S. into one central center, with one remote colocation.

## The Solution

A scalable plan, including strategies for security, infrastructure, storage, networking, validation, and decommissioning, that would allow for business continuity while maintaining regulatory compliance

## The Team

Azzur Group's team of diverse IT experts specializing in regulated markets

## The Impact

Over the course of four years, 1,000+ servers hosting 500+ applications consolidated into one validated data center, backed by a colocation and a comprehensive disaster recovery and business continuity plan

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## STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION INCLUDED



SECURITY



INFRASTRUCTURE



STORAGE



NETWORKING



VALIDATION



DECOMMISSIONING

Once the strategy was developed, specialized staff worked to remotely transfer data before local, on-site experts were brought in for the physical moves and shut down of the data center facilities. On-site experts also managed the build-out of the new center, aligning both the physical and network capabilities with the client's future projects to ensure they had the capability to meet the needs of anticipated business growth.

With more than 500 applications housing sensitive data under SOC controls, the migration project posed myriad coordination challenges for the client; however, the Azzur team worked seamlessly across a number of departments within the company to ensure data integrity and security.

Finally, once the new central data center and colocation were commissioned, the client, with guidance from Azzur, set the foundation for an all-inclusive, scalable disaster recovery and business continuity plan.

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