



Storm
Model
Agency

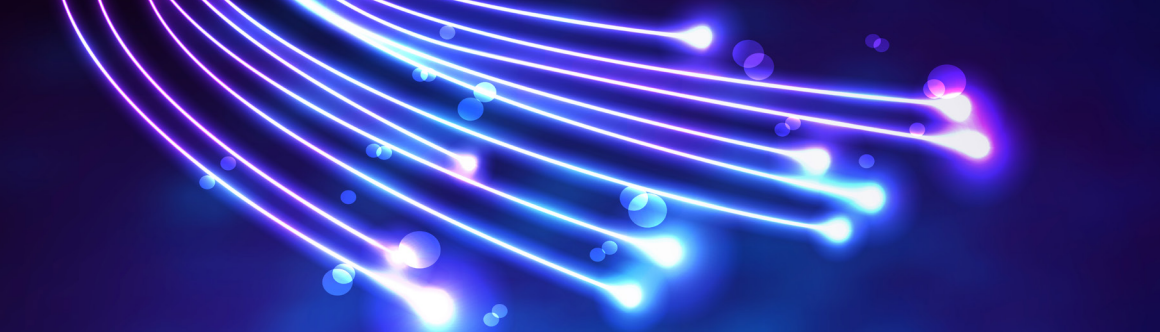
CASESTUDY



Zed One implements virtualised IT infrastructure to help Storm deal with changing IT requirements.

Storm is Britain's leading model agency with fashion's most influential models on their books, including Kate Moss, Cindy Crawford, Lily Cole and Eva Herzigova.

Over the years IT has played an important role in Storm's success underpinning the business as it moved forward. However, towards the end of 2010 the agency realised that it was approaching a watershed with regards to future IT direction as Madhushan Gokool, IT manager at Storm explained. "It became apparent that we needed to make a major infrastructure investment, we decided that this would also be the ideal time to find a better, more skilled IT partner to work with."



Audit of current systems and future requirements analysis

“We looked at a number of companies,” continued Madhushan “before eventually deciding upon Zed One. We initially gave them a 3 month trial at the start of 2011 and after they impressed us during this period we switched all our IT requirements to them.”

One of the key drivers for the switch was the need to find an IT partner that could support Storm during its need to update their infrastructure. Zed One consultants initially carried out an audit of the agency’s current situation and then analysed probable future requirements. From this they were able to prepare a report together with their recommendations as to the future path for Storm’s IT infrastructure.

Virtualised infrastructure for scalability and DR

“They took our requirements of scalability in terms of data growth and disaster recovery capabilities into account,” said Madhushan “and proposed a virtualised infrastructure based on Microsoft Hyper-V. The project to implement Hyper-V had very tight deadlines however Zed One were able to facilitate everything we threw at them and brought the solution in on time and on budget.

All of Zed One’s recommendations have proved to be the ideal solution, improving server utilisation and reducing costs. It provides a small footprint and minimal overhead and seamlessly connects into our existing IT environment, leveraging existing patching, provisioning, management, support tools, processes, and skills.

Coping with an evolving infrastructure

“Everything has gone really well,” concluded Madhushan. “Zed One have proved to have the knowledge and skills required to support our business across all aspects of our IT needs. They are very efficient in responding to issues. They give good general advice as well as detailed insights around complex IT scenarios. They are a fun, easy going company to work with and their staff understands the detailed workings of the technology, and they have supported us perfectly.

“I have already recommended Zed One to a number of other companies and look forward to working with them in the future as we continue to develop Storm’s IT infrastructure to manage our evolving IT environment.”



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