

MYREPUBLIC ADOPTS UNIFIED CLOUD WITH RED HAT OPENSTACK PLATFORM



SOFTWARE AND SERVICES

- Red Hat® OpenStack® Platform
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux®
- Red Hat Ceph Storage
- Red Hat CloudForms
- Red Hat Consulting
- Red Hat Learning Subscription

Internet service provider MyRepublic faced challenges managing growth with a fragmented legacy IT infrastructure. To achieve greater flexibility and scalability, the company migrated to a unified private cloud based on Red Hat OpenStack Platform, supported by Red Hat CloudForms and Red Hat Ceph Storage. With help from Red Hat Consulting, the company quickly deployed its new infrastructure. As a result, MyRepublic has cut time to market for new services, improved management and availability, and substantially reduced hardware costs and total cost of ownership (TCO).



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1,500+ EMPLOYEES
300,000+ SUBSCRIBERS

“We chose Red Hat primarily because they are very close to upstream development, giving us access to new features quickly.”

EUGENE YEO
GROUP CIO, MYREPUBLIC GROUP LIMITED

BENEFITS

- Improved ability to meet short-term demand changes with greater flexibility, scalability, and availability
- Increased efficiency by gaining ability to reallocate staff, cutting time to market
- Reduced hardware costs by 30% and cut year-on-year TCO by double-digit percentages
- Achieved rapid deployment with Red Hat Consulting and Red Hat Learning Subscription, an all-access training offering



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HARDWARE COMPLEXITY RESTRICTS PERFORMANCE

MyRepublic Group Limited provides affordable, fast, fiber-based broadband internet service to businesses and consumers. After the launch of the Next Generation Nationwide Broadband Network (NBN), Singapore's all-fiber wired network, the company has grown its customer base to 300,000 subscribers and launched innovative services, such as the country's first unlimited 1Gbps fiber broadband plan.

To support its business, MyRepublic's IT infrastructure was built on servers virtualized using VMware vSphere. However, as the company's customer base and revenue rapidly grew, this architecture restricted the company's flexibility and innovation. Hardware was purchased on a per-project basis, resulting in underused equipment. A lack of standardization meant equipment could not be pooled centrally, preventing the company from scaling out to handle traffic spikes – proven during an attempt to reuse spare capacity for other services during an outage.

In addition, MyRepublic's legacy hardware was reaching the end of its warranty and support, but renewing its vSphere licenses would have required the company to make repeated, high investments.

To resolve these IT issues, MyRepublic decided to consolidate and standardize its IT assets into a private cloud, Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) platform. An IaaS solution would help the company improve agility and scalability, as well as provide support for establishing a hybrid cloud with a public cloud provider.

OPEN SOURCE SOLUTIONS UNIFY I.T. INFRASTRUCTURE

MyRepublic reviewed several cloud platforms before choosing to deploy Red Hat OpenStack Platform – an OpenStack solution based on Red Hat Enterprise Linux – supported by Red Hat CloudForms management software and Red Hat Ceph Storage.

“We had a choice between proprietary and open source private cloud solutions, including vendors who offered custom open source solutions,” said Eugene Yeo, group CIO at MyRepublic. “Open source would help us avoid vendor lock-in. We chose Red Hat primarily because they are very close to upstream development, giving us access to new features quickly.”

To ensure a successful deployment, MyRepublic engaged Red Hat Consulting during planning and implementation of the new solution. Red Hat consultants ran a planning and design workshop, working closely with the MyRepublic team to overcome design challenges. In addition, MyRepublic purchased Red Hat Learning Subscription, an offering that delivers self-paced, on-demand access to Red Hat online training resources – including videos, courses, and hands-on labs – in a single, annual subscription.

With Red Hat's guidance, MyRepublic successfully deployed its new Red Hat solutions to offer a unified IT platform across the region, including Singapore, Indonesia, and Australia.

“The implementation phase at the first site was incredible. In just two weeks, they got the platform up and running,” said Sebastian Wieseler, head of IT & security at MyRepublic.

“Red Hat has been a really good partner. They were at our side and always available. It has been a really amazing experience to see them collaborate so closely with us.”

SEBASTIAN WIESELER
HEAD OF I.T. & SECURITY,
MYREPUBLIC GROUP LIMITED

SUPPORTED CLOUD PLATFORM OFFERS BETTER PERFORMANCE AND COSTS

IMPROVED SCALABILITY, FLEXIBILITY, AND AVAILABILITY

With Red Hat infrastructure solutions, MyRepublic can easily scale and add resources to handle spikes in demand, such as during short-term promotions when user numbers can grow rapidly.

“System availability is key,” said Eugene. “We need our IT infrastructure to be robust enough to handle spikes because if one of the services fails, that downtime can result in a huge customer impact.”

In addition, MyRepublic’s new platform offers better stability for end-user services by helping the company optimize its network to reduce latency. With greater automation, planned downtime can be minimized.

“In the past, the failure of a node meant that half of the platform was down and applications stopped running,” said Wieseler. “Now, with Red Hat OpenStack Platform and Red Hat Ceph Storage, we have a highly redundant architecture. If a compute or storage node fails, we can use other resources until we replace the faulty equipment.”

GREATER EFFICIENCY

MyRepublic’s cloud platform speeds time to market for new services through simpler, automated deployment – without provisioning new platforms or running complicated integration tests.

“With private cloud, the resources are already there, so projects can take advantage of the existing platform,” said Eugene. “Using cloud resources means we don’t need to go through lengthy procurement processes.”

In addition, MyRepublic has increased platform density and can host different applications and workloads on the same cluster and platform. “We can use the platform for staging environments, development, and production. OpenStack manages the pool of resources for us,” said Wieseler.

The Red Hat solution has helped MyRepublic achieve a unified overview of the entire platform, including the company’s Amazon Web Services (AWS) public cloud. As a result, MyRepublic’s IT, voice, and networking staff can collaborate more effectively to improve services and use internal service level agreements (SLAs) to clearly define responsibilities.

“We only have two people managing the whole IT infrastructure,” said Eugene. “Because we require fewer people to manage the infrastructure, more people can focus on valuable areas like network optimization planning.”

REDUCED COSTS

MyRepublic can run its Red Hat software on any major x86 equipment, eliminating vendor lock-in. The company currently uses different hardware systems in each country.

“Open source offers higher quality and security, and easier integration, without vendor lock-in,” said Eugene. “Our system offers high performance, often at a lower cost than competitors’ offerings.”

With flexible, open source, subscription-based software from Red Hat, MyRepublic can reallocate unused resources. As a result, the company has cut its hardware investment by around 30% and substantially reduced its IT TCO.

“We don’t need to spend any additional money if we need another virtual machine. It’s all included in our Red Hat OpenStack Platform subscription, which is definitely an advantage,” said Wieseler. “It was also valuable that Red Hat provides a five-year, lifelong subscription model, as it’s easier for us to move from capital expenditures [CapEx] to ongoing operational expenses [OpEx] by shifting from hardware to software investment.”

With increased stability and availability, as well as support from Red Hat, MyRepublic has made service improvements that have increased revenue and further improved the company’s return on investment.

“We’re adding a thousand subscribers a week in our latest market entrant, for example,” said Eugene. “The growth is phenomenal, and it wouldn’t have been possible without Red Hat helping us meet our timelines.”

ACCESS TO EXPERT SUPPORT AND TRAINING

By engaging Red Hat Consulting and purchasing Red Hat Learning Subscription, MyRepublic has gained access to expert guidance and training on demand.

“We liked the professionalism of the Red Hat Consulting team. They designed the architecture for us and also organized several workshops to train our team on OpenStack,” said Wieseler.

With Red Hat Learning Subscription, MyRepublic received unlimited access to Red Hat’s online learning content, up to 400 hours of hands-on labs and more than 300 recorded instructor videos. In addition, the team attended Red Hat seminars and training events to stay informed on the latest trends and exchange ideas with subject-matter experts. As a result, MyRepublic’s IT teams not only gained guidance during implementation, but also built relevant skills and knowledge to effectively operate and manage the Red Hat infrastructure.

“We are a mostly technical team. Most vendors come in from a sales angle, but we appreciate that Red Hat could speak our language,” said Eugene. “Additionally, the Red Hat team’s technical knowledge and documentation saved us valuable time. Even a slight delay in meeting the deadline would have affected our marketing plans in a big way and wasted a lot of our investment. But Red Hat did an amazing job.”

ROBUST I.T. MODEL SUPPORTS EXPANSION TO NEW MARKETS

As a result of its initial success, the company plans to use the platform to expand to new markets.

“As we expand our presence across the Asia-Pacific region, we’re going to grow this same private cloud model,” said Eugene. “We now have an infrastructure template that we can replicate to move even faster into new markets.”

With a modern infrastructure based on cost-effective Red Hat software, MyRepublic can innovate rapidly to stay competitive and continue to develop valuable services.

“Our unified platform and private cloud will be incredibly valuable, because it’s simple to start new projects without additional hardware or storage costs,” said Wieseler. “Red Hat has been a really good partner. They were at our side and always available. It has been a really amazing experience to see them collaborate so closely with us.”

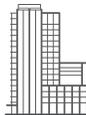


ABOUT MYREPUBLIC

Purpose-built for the fastest Next Generation National Broadband Network (NBN) in 2011, Internet Service Provider MyRepublic has redefined the standard of fibre broadband services in Singapore and the region. Having launched in New Zealand, Indonesia and most recently Australia, MyRepublic continues to push the boundaries with its innovative and consumer-centric service offerings.

<https://myrepublic.net>

ABOUT RED HAT



Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, Linux, middleware, storage, and virtualization technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. As a connective hub in a global network of enterprises, partners, and open source communities, Red Hat helps create relevant, innovative technologies that liberate resources for growth and prepare customers for the future of IT.



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