



## Replacing an ageing Microsoft Small Business Server

365IT delivers a hybrid cloud solution

### The Challenge

Founded in 1955, Guards Polo Club (GPC) has gone on to become Europe's largest Polo Club. With such growth comes the need for change.

When GPC realised their Microsoft Small Business Server was end of life and end of support they were faced with a number of challenges, with no internal IT staff to facilitate an upgrade or transition to a supported platform they called on 365IT's knowledge and skills to help them.

Due to the location of their HQ it had been difficult until recently to obtain a reliable and scalable enough data connection to support their business and the needs of hosting large sporting events with guest and press access periodically throughout the Polo season.

A recent upgrade provided the opportunity for GPC to review how they facilitate their IT needs and a logical progression to Cloud hosted services became a real possibility.

The acquisition of a number of new user devices pre-loaded with Office 365 also presented another challenge to the business.

“ 365IT were recommended to me for a migration to a Cloud based email system and a server upgrade. I was impressed by their upfront planning which made the whole process run exceptionally smoothly. Their friendly support throughout the job and afterwards has meant I would definitely use them again.

*James Neighbour, CEO*

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### The Solution

GPC is at the forefront of horseback sport and soon discovered that its IT infrastructure was a potential business risk. The long-standing Small Business Server was considered not fit for purpose and a conversation with 365IT provided another option

Following a cloud readiness assessment of the existing IT infrastructure and further discussion with GPC's stakeholders, 365IT proposed and rolled out the following:

A Cloud based Microsoft Exchange environment with a Mimecast Email Security package with a local File and Print Server; both of which are backed up to Cloud Storage for business continuity purposes.

Decommissioning of the out-of-support Small Business Server. Pre-built, pre-staged, configured and installed a replacement physical server; enabling GPC to confidently allocate day-to-day server roles; DNS, DHCP, File & Print services to modern, scalable and resilient hardware.

A gradual migration to a Cloud365IT hosted exchange server. Fully supportive of current and future email accounts. Provided physical and virtual firewall appliances alongside 100% control of their user's authentication parameters to the Exchange server.

365IT provides further peace of mind with a Unify Managed and Support Services solution for GPC local and cloud-based infrastructure, which ensures Guards Polo Club's IT infrastructure is an enabler for their delivery of world-class tournaments and regular showpiece occasions for all sport.

### The Benefits

- Cloud based resilient Microsoft Exchange with 100% availability from anywhere
- An environment secured from internal and external threats.
- Protected data delivered by a resilient BaaS.
- Invaluable 24/7, 365 IT Support