DCAC

Denny Cherry & Associates Consulting

Your Data, Our Expertise

An All-Azure Solution

When legacy hardware and software jeopardized AER's finances, they called the award-winning, globally renowned experts at Denny Cherry & Associates Consulting. DCAC migrated them to an economical, high availability solution that saves them 15% annually while providing them with the speed, security, and on-demand scalability they need.

SUMMARY

Transformed legacy on-prem solution to:

- IaaS, PaaS and SaaS high availability solution

- Delivered on-time at 70% of estimate

- Generating a 15% annual savings for company

- Minimal downtime

- Providing speed, security and on-demand scalability

- **Solution won Gold Medal at Silicon Valley Awards**

The Client:

AER Technologies is a leader in automotive electronics remanufacturing and a dedicated partner to some of the world's most esteemed automotive OEMs, suppliers, and dealers.

Ken Hopkins is COO of the company.

The Challenge:

When the economy collapsed in the recession and multiple automotive manufacturers went into bailout, Tier II suppliers like AER Technologies put IT expenditures on ice. By the time the industry recovered, COO Ken Hopkins was facing a serious challenge. "We started having critical failures in our server room that led to outages lasting from a few hours to more than two days. Without a high availability solution in place, our entire business was in jeopardy."

> "Denny's connections run deep in the Microsoft world, and they were worth their weight in gold during the migration."
>
> *Ken Hopkins, AER Technologies*

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The Solution:

Ken contacted globally renowned industry expert Denny Cherry at DCAC. Denny proposed an all-Azure solution that would better server AER long term, given the vulnerabilities of the American automotive industry. A combination of IaaS, PaaS and SaaS solutions including:

- Moving small home-built applications to a SQL DB elastic pool

- AlwaysOn Availability Groups to handle the HA for the Dynamics AX 4 system

- Utilizing non-production node of the Availability Group to run reports without impacting production

- Migrating application servers to IaaS VMs

- Migrating web servers to IaaS VMs

- A network connectivity via Site to Site VPN

- Moving email to Office 365

- Moving domain controllers to IaaS VMs

- Duplicating environment with stop-gap VMs until application code could be changed

The Results:

Ken was categorical. "The core of the migration was flawless – moving Dynamics AX and upgrading to SQL 2014 seemed organic in nature. Within a couple of days, we had our main systems up and running, followed by ancillary applications soon after. We will now always have access to the latest and greatest equipment coupled with MSFT's tech support. We are aligning ourselves with a Microsoft Gold Partner in Denny Cherry & Associates Consulting, because Denny's connections run deep in the Microsoft world. They were worth their weight in gold during the migration."

The solution was:

- Delivered on-time

- Under budget -- at 70% of estimate

- At a 15% reduction in AER annual budget

- With minimal downtime

- Providing speed, security and on-demand scalability

Denny Cherry & Associates Consulting's solution for AER Technologies won the Gold for Data Center Innovations and Silver for IT Team of the Year at the Silicon Valley Awards.

Ready to migrate to Azure? Visit Denny Cherry & Associates Consulting on the web at www.dcac.com. Your data, our expertise.