



Overview

The need

To centrally connect and collect data from its Internet of Things offering, NetThings needed custom software hosted on robust cloud infrastructure with global data center presence.

The solution

IBM Premier Business Partner Assimil8 provisioned SoftLayer® virtual server architecture in the SoftLayer Amsterdam data center to rapidly launch a powerful data-gathering application for the NetThings platform.

The benefit

With the SoftLayer platform's flexible, usage-based delivery model, NetThings is well-positioned to scale quickly as business demands and keep costs low.

NetThings

SoftLayer cloud technology drives global expansion for an Internet of Things platform

Established in 2007 and headquartered in Edinburgh, Scotland, NetThings offers an industry-leading Internet of Things platform designed to simplify and automate building management. The flexible, cost-effective solution provides smart control and energy monitoring capabilities for homes and businesses.

Seeking cloud-based data collection

NetThings designed hardware for its innovative Internet of Things platform but needed a software application to centrally connect and collect data from its solution deployments. With plans to extend its offering to customers around the world, the company wanted to host the application on robust cloud infrastructure with global data center presence. NetThings sought an expert IT provider to create a custom software solution backed by scalable, highly reliable cloud technology.

IBM Premier Business Partner Assimil8 provisioned SoftLayer cloud technology to quickly develop and launch a data-gathering application for the NetThings offering. "With the SoftLayer cloud hosting platform, we can scale extremely quickly to deliver our innovative Internet of Things offering to customers worldwide," says NetThings lead Java developer Michael Cunningham.



Quickly launching with a SoftLayer platform

NetThings assessed leading local vendors and engaged IBM Premier Business Partner Assimil8 to deliver a solution. “We had to compete on two levels,” says Assimil8 director Kevin Hurd. “One was development quality and the other was the cloud environment. By offering a SoftLayer hosting environment, we were able to promise stability, flexibility and 100 percent service levels, which worked very well with the application we were proposing.”

Assimil8 provisioned a SoftLayer virtual server infrastructure in the SoftLayer Amsterdam data center to host a proof of concept (POC). After developing a Java™-based application and successfully demonstrating the solution, the Business Partner quickly moved the platform into production. “We created a production environment with a saved image from the SoftLayer development environment,” says Hurd. “The deployment was very quick.”

Scaling worldwide and keeping costs low

The SoftLayer solution’s fast, easy-to-provision cloud resources will support NetThings as its business expands globally. “With the SoftLayer cloud hosting platform, we can scale extremely quickly to deliver our innovative Internet of Things offering to customers worldwide,” says NetThings lead Java developer Michael Cunningham.

Additionally, Assimil8 anticipates keeping costs low with the SoftLayer platform’s flexible, usage-based delivery model. “As NetThings continues its rollout, we can scale the SoftLayer architecture based on demand,” says Hurd. “We’re able to throttle the infrastructure so that NetThings pays only for what it needs at the time.”

Solution components

Services

- SoftLayer®

IBM Business Partner

- Assimil8

For more information

To learn more about IBM Cloud computing solutions, please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following website: ibm.com/cloud-computing



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Produced in the United States of America
June 2015

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