Delivering a fast, secure and reliable network for an entire urban community’s public institutions

Into the cloud... Based on a true story
1,000 virtual workstations  
150 virtual machines  
7 OVH Private Clouds

Executive Summary

The urban community of Bourget Airport is home to 100,000 residents of the French towns of Le Bourget, Drancy, and Dugny. It is also the first community in France to completely outsource its IT operations for all of its public institutions, including schools, municipal police stations, and health centres. OVH designed and delivered a tailored Private Cloud solution that could be connected to the community’s network, allowing public service staff to work in a secure, flexible and dependable online environment at all times.

The Challenge

For public entities, budgetary constraints are the norm. As such, the community was seeking a cost-effective IT solution that would enable it to keep up with technological advances without relying on in-house professionals. To do so, the IT manager needed to outsource the municipality’s entire server farm to a value-driven cloud provider.

“On one hand, technology advances rapidly, and hardware is quickly obsolete. On the other, a public authority does not have the budget to regularly upgrade its machines, nor the funds to recruit experienced system administrators, whose salary expectations are elevated due to the shortage of such professional in the IT sector. Therefore, outsourcing is the best solution.”

David Larose, IT Manager, Urban Community of Bourget Airport
The Solution

OVH directly connected the core of the community’s network to seven Private Cloud solutions in its datacentre through the vRack Dedicated Connect solution.

One Dedicated Cloud is used solely to collect and store video protection data from 80 HD cameras and three more host business applications. Remote desktops also host 150 virtual machines, which include more than 60 apps, for government data.

In addition, OVH extended fibre links to nearby towns, to establish interconnection points and enable the community to benefit from a 2x10 Gbps fibre connection with the security of a second loop with the same capacity, and to two points of presence (PoP), so that data could be channelled through four distinct fibre links, using two different routes. A pair of firewalls and a Cisco Sourcefire module were also deployed at one PoP to provide the community’s public employees with a redundant 10 Gbps internet connection.
The Result

The OVH Private Cloud allowed for platform sharing across applications and environments for greater agility, communication, and efficiency. The virtual desktop environment simplified template management, rapid deployment of remote desktops, and enhanced help desk support. With Dedicated Connect, OVH can manage availability and performance from the interconnection points to the infrastructures.

“The investment for pulling fibre to the towns of Bobigny and La Courneuve will see an ROI in 10 years, all while providing 100 times the bandwidth and the ability to communicate through a totally private network with our outsourced infrastructures.”

David Larose, IT Manager, Urban Community of Bourget Airport