

CASE STUDY:

MOHEGAN GAMING & ENTERTAINMENT GAINS EFFICIENCY THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE CONFIGURATION AUTOMATION WITH AXCELINNO®

Mohegan Gaming & Entertainment (MGE) is a master developer and operator of premier global integrated entertainment resorts. MGE was simply looking for "A Better Way" to operate. MGE was driven to continue developing its current locations while finding innovative ways to bring efficiency to its infrastructure. However, simple infrastructure management and configuration tasks are the most complex ones, requiring the most time and distracting their team members from strategic new technologies. Axcelinno partnered with Red Hat to leverage the power and flexibility of infrastructure-as-code methodologies and platforms to standardize the configuration and enforce compliance of the MGE infrastructure.

THE BUSINESS CHALLENGE:

MGE is expanding into different landscapes both domestically and internationally. The gaming industry domestically is becoming less of a destination-based industry and becoming more regional- based gaming. Guests don't have to travel as far to get the same gaming product. This changes the way MGE approaches technology to solve common problems. Key to MGE's strategy to become a default choice for gaming patrons, they decided to improve their customer loyalty program. This created a critical time challenge, as each regional location took weeks to stand up their loyalty program infrastructure.

Due to the manual involvement required by the infrastructure-related tasks, adding a new property to the loyalty program previously required six full-time employees two weeks to provision and configure load balancers, servers, and databases. The manual provisioning and configuration were delaying the project and time to market. MGE focused on finding a way to automate this process, but when COVID-19 hit, MGE decided to put the effort on hold.

However, Axcelinno understood the importance of the automation effort to MGE. Axcelinno was in constant communication with MGE and built a plan to facilitate the deployment of Ansible within the MGE environment.

THE SOLUTION: IMPLEMENT AUTOMATION WITH RED HAT ANSIBLE

MGE was looking at leveraging Ansible to automate manual tasks related to the AS400 environment. MGE also sought Axcelinno's guidance to assist in the setup and configuration of Ansible, following best practices to support their automation initiatives by implementing infrastructure-as-code using Ansible.

COVID-19 put the engagement at risk. However, Axcelinno's commitment to MGE's automation journey using Ansible and implementing the playbooks for MGE's environment, and mentoring MGE's team members remained the same. Axcelinno's Red Hat Ansible Automation Rapid Start program allowed MGE to purchase the software, professional services for setup and playbook implementation using best practices, and training as a single package.

'Mohegan team members highlighted the willingness of Axcelinno to adjust and accommodate requests to allow for more hands-on learning. Walking away from this rapid standup engagement, Mohegan team members are well trained, Ansible is fully stood up with integrations into the Mohegan environment as great examples that have set us up for success going forward.'

— Timothy O'Leary, Director of Global Architecture Information Technology, Mohegan Gaming & Entertainment



Industry: Gambling & Casino

Company Size: 13,000 Employees

Headquarters: Uncasville, CT

KEY RESULTS

- Automated complex network and server configuration changes while reducing deployment time from weeks to hours
- Streamlined CI/CD process by adding infrastructure automation to the build and release pipelines
- Gained experience and guidance with Infrastructure as Code methodologies and best practices and the Red Hat Ansible Platform

SOFTWARE

- Red Hat Ansible Platform
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux
- Red Hat Satellite
- IBM i
- VMware
- Microsoft SQL Server
- Jenkins

For more information, call your Mainline account representative or call Mainline directly at 866.490.MAIN(6246).

Axcelinno, LLC was acquired by Mainline Information Systems on January 31, 2023.

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THE RESULTS:

In less than four weeks, Axcelinno stood up Ansible and had automated MGE's process involving networking infrastructure, AS400, VMWare, DNS/DHCP provisioning, databases, and software platforms. The Axcelinno team also used its unique mentoring model to provide hands-on training and coaching to the MGE team.

Axcelinno's Ansible Automation Rapid Start program reduced MGE's time required to provision and configure the infrastructure to hours per location from weeks. Through a partnership with Axcelinno and Red Hat, MGE solved the common problem of doing more with less. With the introduction of the Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform, MGE continues to provide a great customer experience while bringing efficiency to its infrastructure.

'Axcelinno was committed to Mohegan's success from the beginning. We never doubted they had our best interest in mind. Axcelinno was in constant communication working on a game plan to facilitate the deployment of Ansible within our environment, [even when] COVID-19 hit.'

*— Timothy O'Leary, Director of Global Architecture Information Technology,
Mohegan Gaming & Entertainment*