RELX ELIMINATES EXPENSIVE TAPE DEPENDENCY WITH MODEL9 "SOFTWARE-ONLY" SOLUTION, CUTTING COSTS, GAINING STRATEGIC EDGE

Information, analytics, and exhibitions company modernizes its mainframe environment, transitions to a cloud data-management solution

OVERVIEW

RELX is a global information and analytics group headquartered in the United Kingdom, with annual global revenues of approximately $10 billion. It is the world's largest publisher of academic articles, one of the world's largest exhibition companies and provider of electronic databases for legal information.

Adoption of Model9's Cloud Data Manager for Mainframe allowed RELX to accelerate its move away from mainframe legacy storage towards a more cost-effective object storage from MinIO.

CHALLENGE

Over time, the company's data center environment had gradually shrunk to a single mainframe as processes were selectively moved to other platforms. But a decision on further investments was looming.

"Our primary motivation was the renewal of the enterprise contract with Broadcom/CA and a need to reduce the cost of operating our remaining mainframe," explains Jeff Reineke, the company's Director, Systems Engineering.

Although it would have been easy to simply continue with existing mainframe operations and go along with the routine of a contract renewal with a key vendor, RELX did not want further spending on technology that was costly and lacked options for data portability. They began to consider other directions.
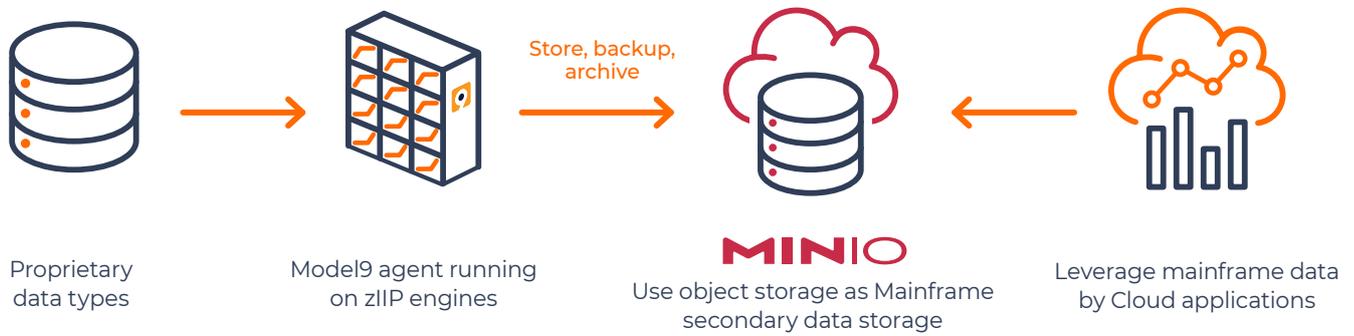
SOLUTION

For RELX, Model9 presented a striking alternative solution that provided lower costs, improved performance and offered the potential for increased access to key data.

Model9's capabilities and cloud readiness gave RELX confidence and a willingness to move ahead. To implement rapidly, they initiated a proof of concept using Model9 software and MinIO as on-site, object storage. This on-premises solution quickly demonstrated that it could meet all RELX mainframe backup and archive needs.

Model9's software-based solution replaced Broadcom CA tape and disk management software and two backup software products from Innovation Data Processing known as FDR and Upstream (now owned by Compuware, BMC).

With the help of Model9, RELX's secondary storage transfers from expensive VTL to an on-premises MinIO cloud storage server reducing costs and improving performance.

MinIO's high-performance software-defined object storage server provides RELX with petabyte and exabyte scalability for backup, archive, DR, and big-data analytics operations. It runs on Intel-based infrastructures and is compatible with all major public and private cloud providers.

| Proprietary data types | Model9 agent running on zIIP engines | Store, backup, archive → MINIO Use object storage as Mainframe secondary data storage | Leverage mainframe data by Cloud applications |

SOLUTION BENEFITS

◆ Reduced billable MSU consumption from backup and space management operations

◆ Modernized the company data infrastructure and helped transition to MinIO, a cloud-oriented platform

◆ Eliminated expensive, proprietary VTS hardware, monthly tape and backup management software license costs and mainframe-specific data silos

◆ Provided access to cost-effective, scalable cloud storage

CUSTOMER QUOTES

" *We were interested in moving away from dependence on VTL technologies and improving data management in the cloud. Model9 enabled us to achieve this with a smooth transition to the MinIO platform that also helped eliminate ongoing license costs.* "

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT@MODEL9.IO, WWW.MODEL9.IO