

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

State University of New York (SUNY) tackles cross-organizational collaboration head on with advanced tools and Forsyte I.T. Solutions' partner support



The State University of New York

OVERVIEW

As the nation's largest university system, comprised of 64-plus entities and campuses, State University of New York (SUNY) needed a way to work as though operating in a single location and streamline collaboration. With traditional infrastructure and legacy solutions proving difficult and costly to manage, SUNY turned to Microsoft Gold Partner expert Forsyte I.T. Solutions to engineer an advanced collaboration blueprint to carry the university system into the future. Thus, CloudConnect was born.

Today, SUNY operates as a simplified network of campuses, collaborating and sharing resources as though on a single tenant. A proponent of Microsoft technologies and advanced solutions, SUNY provides its users with an infrastructure previously unavailable in the Education industry as we know it.

PROJECT GOALS

- 1 Connect SUNY's large, 64 entity organization for advanced collaboration without migrating or consolidating tenants.
- 2 Easily look up any SUNY user with a connected GAL, accessible to everyone inside of SUNY's system.
- 3 Create a way to bridge and share resources, global address lists, and advanced collaboration activities across SUNY entities.

ORGANIZATION

State University of New York (SUNY)

Website:

www.suny.edu

Location:

State of New York

Industry:

Education

Implementation:

CloudConnect

Size:

400,000 faculty, staff and students

"CloudConnect uses B2B objects, Azure, and the University-wide tenant to allow SUNY users to work and collaborate in a much more secure fashion."

- Ken Runyon
CISO, SUNY

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CHALLENGE

State University of New York (SUNY) needed a way to collaborate across its 64-plus entity infrastructure to share resources and collaborate as though operating on the same tenant.

The idea to re-structure its network and think in terms of working in the cloud brought on excitement and ideas as SUNY made headway to begin its largest technology project to date.

SUNY wanted to create a secure virtualized environment for its faculty and staff to share resources, collaborate in Microsoft Teams, log into campus domains, and work better together, while maintaining its disparate tenant identities. This was a challenge that had never been tackled in Education at the time, but SUNY believed in the possible.

SOLUTION

SUNY CISO, Ken Runyon, turned to the identity and security experts of Forsyte I.T. Solutions to create secure, advanced collaboration tool using Microsoft technologies that would join its large infrastructure and develop something that had never been done before.

Such a long-felt problem needed a creative solution and Forsyte went to work developing and testing a multitude of ideas. From this need, Forsyte developed its all-cloud-based, Microsoft technology-connected solution, CloudConnect. Joining disparate tenants in a way that maintains individual campus identities, CloudConnect creates a bridge to share resources, global address lists, and advanced collaboration activities. CloudConnect uses advanced Microsoft technologies such as Azure Active Directory B2B and B2C, Azure Web Apps, Azure Cosmos DB, Azure Storage Services, Azure Key Vault, and Azure Front Door to make it all work.



Reduced capital expenditures.



Shared resources and tools with advanced collaboration.



Happier and more productive users.

BENEFITS

Joining its vast network of users, SUNY faculty and staff are now able to take seamless collaboration and productivity to the next level. Bridging the cross-organizational collaboration gap, SUNY joins the ranks of a select few that have pioneered such a large objective in a sustainable and secure manner.

CloudConnect offers SUNY's users an easy way to interact with one another in a way that removes barriers to advance productivity and communication into the future.