MAXIMIZING EFFICIENCY AND COST SAVINGS WITH THE CLOUD

How Managed Network Services Can Help Manufacturers Migrate to the Cloud

Manufacturing companies are on a quest to modernize their operations, make their processes more efficient and streamline their costs. Cloud computing can help with that transformation because it enables manufacturers to be more agile and adapt quickly to shifts in production demand, which in turns helps them save money and keep their costs in check.

While migrating to the cloud comes with some clear advantages such as reduced IT infrastructure costs and improved scalability, it also can create some challenges, particularly when it comes to compatibility with legacy systems and data security.

> Analyst firm Gartner forecasts that global spending on public cloud services will **grow 21.7% to $597.3 billion in 2023, up from $491 billion in 2022.**

Protecting Legacy Systems

Most manufacturing companies can't afford to abandon their existing legacy applications and start over in the cloud, particularly when they have made significant financial and technical investments in those legacy systems.

Instead, companies need to examine ways in which they can protect their legacy assets while still modernizing their systems. Because the cloud is not a one-size-fits-all proposition, companies must determine which of their applications should be migrated to the cloud and which capabilities should remain on-premise.

Regardless of whether the application is running in cloud or on-premise, one thing that is critical is that manufacturing companies have reliable connectivity for their cloud migration. Frontier's Managed Dedicated Internet with 99.99% guaranteed circuit availability is installed, configured, monitored and managed 24/7.

Keeping Data Secure

Manufacturing companies collect large amounts of data during the manufacturing process, because every part of the process is measurable and able to be optimized. Plus, the amount of data collected keeps growing as manufacturers learn to use that data to improve their processes and productivity.

The data collected can also help manufacturers reduce downtime because they can better understand and mitigate possible glitches and bottlenecks. In addition, data from the factory floor can be used to predict maintenance on machinery and reduce outages.

But that high volume of data often leads to security concerns. While manufacturers do not typically collect consumer data on a large scale, they do collect other types of sensitive proprietary data such as intellectual property information or source code. Plus, many manufacturers that supply products to other organizations need to guarantee data confidentiality to their customers and ensure the data they collect is kept secure.

Managed Network Services Can Help

Frontier's Managed Network Services (MNS) can help manufacturers ensure data security and assist with challenges that might arise when migrating to the cloud.

MNS provides manufacturers with the ability to tailor their Internet connectivity and select the managed service enhancements that they need. It also allows them to maximize their IT resources by offloading the oversight of the network to Frontier's team of technical experts allowing their in-house IT team to focus on more business tasks.

With Frontier's MNS, manufacturers can take advantage of Frontier's Managed Dedicated Internet and add service enhancements such as Managed Cellular Failover, which automatically failover the business' Managed Dedicated Internet to a secondary cellular connection if the Managed Dedicated Internet service is down so they can keep critical applications running during an outage. Managed Cellular Failover also provides unlimited data, optimized cellular signal coverage, and encryption so that data is protected during the outage.

In addition, manufacturers can also add Managed Wi-Fi, creating a robust Wi-Fi network covering up to 10,000 square feet. With Managed Wi-Fi, Frontier experts make sure that the indoor and outdoor Wi-Fi network is operating at peak performance while providing a separate private and guest Wi-Fi network with a customizable guest log-in screen and guaranteed security for all end users.

MNS also offers Managed Security, which provides manufacturers with peace-of-mind knowing that their data is protected from cyber threats and malicious content. Frontier's Managed Security provides clients with a virtual private network (VPN) for secure remote file access, a trusted firewall to protect against online attacks, and instant notification if an issue or breach occurs.

Frontier's MNS is powered by Cisco Meraki, operator of the industry's largest-scale cloud networking service and a Gartner Magic Quadrant leader. The MNS offerings—Managed Dedicated Internet, Cellular Failover, Managed Wi-Fi and Managed Security — are closely monitored with a single-pane-of-glass dashboard that offers visibility into the entire MNS environment.

This means the manufacturer can see in real-time how much bandwidth their company is using, the application usage, and even the individual employee usage. Being able to monitor usage and network performance this closely allows manufacturers to increase efficiency as well as minimize downtime and improve overall performance of their network.

Ready to learn more? Discover how Frontier's [Managed Network Services](#) can help your business improve operational efficiencies.