

PulteGroup Inc. migrates mailbox and archive data to Office 365

The migration enabled the large US home builder to free up infrastructure, reduce costs and realize the benefits of the cloud



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Julie Harris
Senior Infrastructure Manager

CUSTOMER PROFILE



Company PulteGroup Inc.
Industry Home Construction
Country USA
Employees 5,000
Website pultegroupinc.com

BUSINESS NEED

After acquiring a Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, PulteGroup needed to move mail for 5,500 users and 16TB of archives in Enterprise Vault to Microsoft Office 365 in an effort to centralize management, increase productivity and reduce costs.

SOLUTION

PulteGroup chose a managed migration with Quadrotech Archive Shuttle by Quest to ensure a seamless migration for their large volume of users and data while still staying within their allotted budget.

BENEFITS

- Smooth migration of 5,500 mail users and 16TB of archive data
- Consolidated and optimized mail and archives in Office 365
- Freed up IT infrastructure, reduced costs and enabled new capabilities for their users

SOLUTIONS AT A GLANCE

[Quadrotech Archive Shuttle](#)

PulteGroup, a large US-based homebuilding company, acquired a Microsoft Office 365 Enterprise Agreement (EA) and planned to benefit from the centralized management, increased productivity, and reduced costs that the cloud promises. The email migration was delayed due to complexities with Enterprise Vault.

“Quadrotech was extremely flexible and easy to work with. Even though we changed course a couple times throughout the project, they kept the project on track while minding the budget constraints and requirements.”

*Julie Harris
Senior Infrastructure Manager*

CHALLENGES

There were a couple things that eventually influenced PulteGroup to move forward with the Office 365 mailbox deployment. PulteGroup had been running their Enterprise Vault archive on EMC Centera, a content-addressable storage (CAS) platform for data archiving. Wanting to retire Centera, PulteGroup realized that they needed to find a location for their Enterprise Vault archive data. With built-in archiving capabilities in Office 365, and an EA already in place, it made sense to migrate everything to Office 365 including their archive data and Exchange 2013 on-premises. PulteGroup realized that they could drastically streamline their operations and budget by following this route, so started their search for a migration tool that could get the job done.

Whichever tool PulteGroup chose it needed to handle many terabytes of data and a large number of mailbox migrations. It also needed to maintain their strict retention policies and ensure that these retention categories were replicated to their new cloud platform.

SOLUTIONS

PulteGroup researched several migration tools, but none seemed to meet their needs. They finally discovered Quadrotech, now part of Quest, who could migrate their mailboxes and archive in a seamless manner while staying within their allotted budget.

PulteGroup chose a managed migration with Quadrotech Archive Shuttle to ensure the required skills, resources, and bandwidth were available to manage the complex project. PulteGroup sent batches of users to the Managed Operations team, who then migrated and switched the mailbox over based on PulteGroup's preferred schedule. Since the mailbox migration was tightly integrated with Quadrotech Archive Shuttle, as soon as the mailbox migration completed, the archive migration for that batch of users began immediately. Migrating using Quadrotech Archive Shuttle, PulteGroup could ensure that their archive migration from EMC Centera storage followed best practice for chain of custody preservation, logging, auditing, and control.

Initially, PulteGroup wanted to add the retention tags to the mailbox directly, which required advanced scripting. Quadrotech wrote the custom scripts based on what PulteGroup needed but ultimately, they didn't have the desired outcome, so the Quadrotech team reworked the scripts.

“In the end, we decided to remove the scripts entirely because Microsoft made some changes, but it was reassuring to know that Quadrotech was willing to work with us to ensure the desired result was achieved,” said Julie Harris Senior Infrastructure Manager of PulteGroup.

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

SOFTWARE

Quadrotech Archive Shuttle

BENEFITS/RESULTS

Quadrotech's quick and compliant migration of PulteGroup's mailbox and archive data to Office 365 enabled them to free up infrastructure, reduce costs and take advantage of the features natively available in Office 365.

"Overall, our mailbox and archive migration project went extremely smooth due to several proof of concepts to ensure we were getting everything right," stated Harris. "Quadrotech was extremely flexible and easy to work with. Even though we changed course a couple times throughout the project, they kept the project on track while minding the budget constraints and requirements."

"Without Quadrotech's help, we would likely have continued to manage three isolated platforms. By consolidating and optimizing to one platform, Office 365, our IT team is better able to manage our information and take on other projects."

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