

What does a software development company do when it outgrows its existing in-house test environment? Find out how Verdande Technology AS met the challenge by moving its testing to iland’s cloud platform, benefiting from lower costs and allowing it to focus on building its core business.

Company	Verdande Technology AS
Size	SMB
Type	Software
Industry	Technology
Cloud Application	Software QA
Location	Trondheim, Norway

Business Profile

Verdande Technology AS is a global leader in applying Case-Based Reasoning (CBR) to specialized business applications. It develops products and services that harvest and enable the reuse of knowledge. The Edge platform, its core technology, is based on the principle of CBR; a process which solves new problems by utilizing the solutions of similar past problems. The Edge platform has applications across multiple industries, including financial services, healthcare and energy.

Verdande Technology was established in 2004 and is privately funded by the founders and employees, along with Statoil, ProVenture and Investinor. The company is headquartered in Trondheim, Norway, with regional offices in Houston, TX and Abu Dhabi, UAE.

The Challenge

Verdande Technology has grown rapidly over the past few years and its growth is expected to continue apace. The company was facing an increasing IT infrastructure challenge – it was using an in-house test lab that leverages VMware for configuring various tests on its flagship software. However, as the company expanded, the in-house test environment was not large enough to meet irregular testing demands. Verdande Technology would either have to invest in additional equipment and resources on a CAPEX basis to meet those demands or consider other alternative test bed environments. In addition, it needed to get a test infrastructure in place in a hurry.

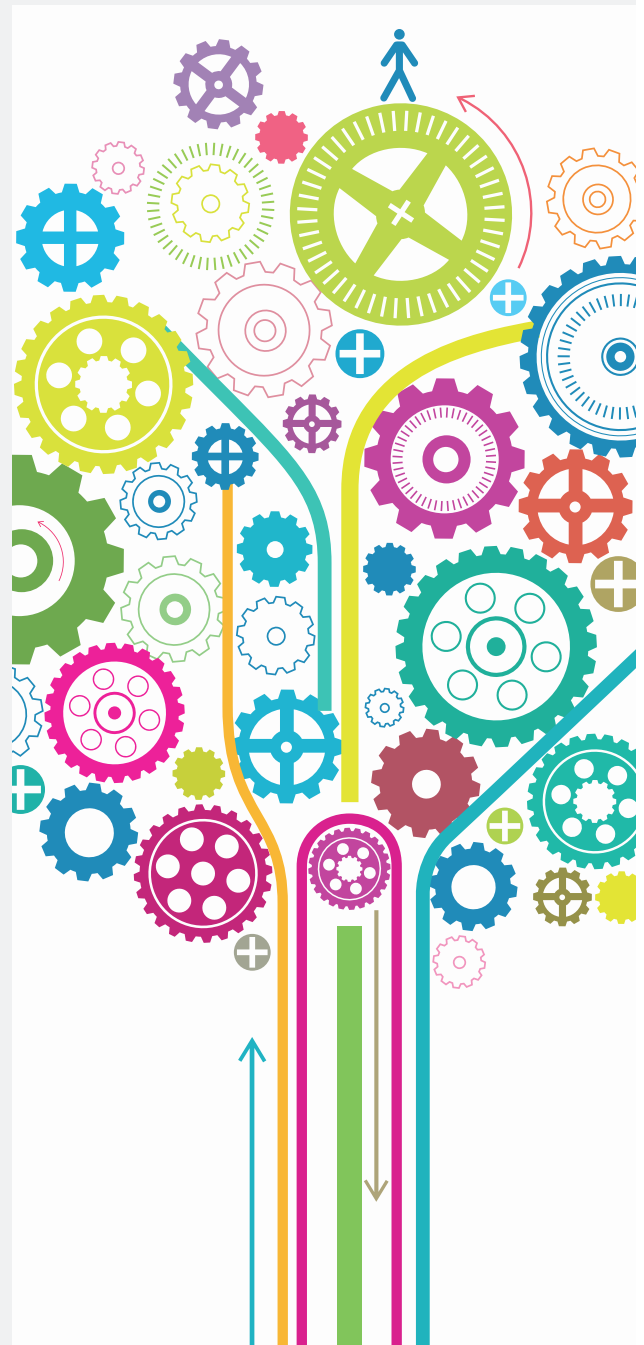


Peter Varlien, IT Systems Engineer at Verdande Technology, commented, “We needed a way to extend the infrastructure we had without making a significant investment. We looked at cloud-based environments and decided that a managed cloud infrastructure would provide a flexible, cost-effective means to extend our testing environment and eliminate the hardware and operational headaches at the same time.”

Verdande Technology’s clients operate in a number of industries including financial services, healthcare and energy, making it important for the company to test its software in a configurable test bed that replicates the different types of systems on which the company’s clients install the Edge platform. System configurations range from a simple desktop computer to multi-layer, enterprise bladed servers. For each configuration, Verdande Technology required control over memory amount, processors, and available storage. An additional prerequisite was that the cost be lower than buying it themselves. Because the test environment is not customer-facing and is used and maintained by test engineers only when needed, internal maintenance and operation costs were low. Such a low operational cost meant that it was hard for a cloud provider to offer a lower price.

The Solution

Verdande Technology had a requirement to test its software on VMware. The company researched VMware’s partners and selected iland. Because most vendors classified or priced virtual machines in tiers, with each subsequent tier adding more CPUs, increased memory and greater storage, the price increased for each tier. Verdande Technology wanted to be able to combine different CPUs, memory and storage so that it could satisfy individual test requirements. iland stood out as the vendor best able to offer that capability on a pay-as-you-go basis in addition to offering the control that Verdande Technology wanted.



As Varlien states, “VMware’s vCloud gives us the flexibility and control we need. We can remotely configure a test bed according to testing requirements and iland bills us only for what we’ve used. We don’t have to worry about when, where or how we need to test anymore!”

The Benefits/ROI

Verdande Technology continues to reap the benefits of a public cloud-based environment for software testing. It is now much quicker and easier for its engineers to test remotely and collaboratively giving the company improved flexibility and agility to bring software updates to customers.

“Our stringent testing and other requirements were easily met by iland’s cloud solution. We are saving money because we no longer have to buy and maintain hardware. But the biggest benefit of all is being able to focus on growing our core business,” stated Varlien.

The Future

Varlien knows that the public cloud solution gives him significant flexibility for the future. Now his team:

- > Has no need to buy, and therefore justify additional hardware
- > Is not maintaining or patching hardware
- > Can test collaboratively

About iland

iland Internet Solutions, VMware’s Service Provider Partner of the Year Global and Americas, provides hosted cloud infrastructure services in North America and Europe that enable customers to leverage enterprise class infrastructure in the form of virtual datacenters with flexible billing and capacity models. Solutions include secure hosted environments for virtual servers and desktops, test and development, cloud-based disaster recovery, and hybrid cloud services to maximize the value of existing VMware based environments.

For more information, visit www.iland.com.

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