

Hybrid Cloud Solution Cuts Costs and Preserves Peace of Mind for Specialist Law Firm

McCabe Terrill is a specialist law firm in Sydney serving a diverse client base in the commercial, insurance, and government sectors. Since its founding 20 years ago, McCabe Terrill has built a reputation for providing high-quality and timely advice, thanks to a reliable approach that is both pragmatic and assertive.



Unwieldy System Causing Inefficiencies

"I've been working with McCabe Terrill for about a year now," says Brad Allen, IT Manager for McCabe Terrill. "When I came on, the system was overly complicated - it had no logical flow, the hardware was extremely varied, and there were lots of custom applications that were difficult to manage. It kept me awake at night."

McCabe Terrill had 15 physical servers in two separate rooms. Both spaces demanded continuous air conditioning, security, lots of floor space, and a substantial power supply. The result was a power-hungry set-up that consumed large amounts of energy - not to mention money.

"Thanks to Huon IT, we've dramatically reduced our administration overhead and energy costs, and now have industry-leading disaster recovery procedures in place."

Brad Allen, IT Manager for McCabe Terrill

Choosing a Provider

In 2010, Allen engaged the Huon team to conduct a Legal IT Health Check, which helped the law firm identify major problem areas and together developed a high-level strategy to innovate.

"Huon IT were the right fit," Allen says. "They'd worked with other law firms and were quite knowledgeable about the products we used. I knew they'd be solid partners for us."



Decommissioned Equipment



Consolidated Environment

- Server space reduced from two rooms to one
- Dramatic decrease in energy costs
- "Hybrid cloud" disaster recovery regime exceeds industry standards
- In-house IT staff empowered

The First Step – A Private Cloud

Huon IT reduced McCabe Terrill's physical footprint from two server rooms into the smaller space, with half the rack size. Using virtualization technology and a NetApp SAN, the consolidation increased system capacity and simplified management. The transformation led to profound improvements across the business:

Benefits for Partners	Benefits for the IT Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Reduced capital expenditure and lower ongoing maintenance costs ■ Increased productivity across the firm ■ Significant savings on power consumption and cooling costs ■ An entire room now available for more productive office use ■ Elastic scalability for future growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full redundancy, resulting in less downtime ■ Installation of new systems dramatically simplified ■ Streamlined time-consuming tasks, including checking backup ■ Simplification of ongoing management ■ Less stress and strain on IT staff

Disaster Recovery in the Public Cloud

Huon IT also provided Disaster Recovery as a Service that left everyone at McCabe Terrill with increased peace of mind. Without needing to buy and maintain a second set of redundant infrastructure, the firm has complete redundancy and preservation of critical data via the Public Cloud.

“Before Huon IT, we weren't confident that we had a good back-up regime in place,” Allen says. “There was no way to manage disaster recovery from a central location - and we couldn't even verify that the data was being backed up.”

Thanks to the cloud solution that Huon IT designed, back-up now basically takes care of itself. And should the worst happen, Disaster Recovery is only a phone call away. “Before, it could have taken days to get up and running in the event of system failure,” Allen explains. “Now we can do it in one hour.”

Innovation for the Future

By combining the control and accessibility of an in-house private cloud, with the cost saving scalability of public cloud, McCabe Terrill now have an innovative, hybrid solution that exceeds industry standards.

“I'd absolutely recommend Huon IT to anyone,” says Allen. “Their expertise and support is superb, and they have great technical knowledge. I always knew what was happening, what was needed, and why - it is just a great experience working with them.”