



Recruitment, Training and Deployment Provider

Six Degrees enables a recruitment, training and deployment provider to streamline its careers programme by empowering trainers to deliver brilliant experiences to their students.

Six Degrees delivers cloud services to a leading recruitment, training and deployment provider with a global footprint and an impressive list of market-leading clients. The company is renowned for its dynamic careers programme, which provides graduates, returners to work and ex-forces personnel with award-winning business and technical training in core disciplines.

Challenge

The provider's careers programme bridges the gap between academia and the commercial world for graduates, enabling individuals to train in IT and business specialties in one of the company's award-winning academies.

Trainers employed by the provider to deliver classroom-based training were tasked with setting up VMware-based lab environments for their students in advance of each course. The process was inefficient and inflexible – trainers spent an unnecessary amount of time setting up the lab environments, and students were often unable to access these lab environments outside of the course sessions.

About Six Degrees

We are a cloud-led managed service provider. We work as a collaborative technology partner to businesses making a digital transition.

Always placing clients at the heart of our strategy, our passionate teams combine technical expertise and deep sector specific knowledge to innovate, craft and manage the right solutions to power businesses.

The breadth and strength of our technology is our foundation. Solutions range from data and application performance management through to colocation and unified communications, all with private, public and hybrid cloud at its core.

We work collaboratively and build long-term partnerships through exceptional services that match our clients' needs. We continually innovate the right solutions to enable our clients' brilliance.



Cloud Platform & Data

Modernise your data centre and secure your hybrid cloud future.



Cyber Security & Compliance

Enhance your cyber security posture and safeguard your organisation.



Agile Workspace

Communicate, collaborate and work efficiently, anywhere.



Network Infrastructure

Achieve a step change in your connectivity and your digital transformation journeys.

Recognising these issues, the provider initially sought to utilise Amazon Web Services (AWS)-hosted lab environments created by its development team. Although this removed burden from its trainers, the AWS solution remained inflexible and also took the development team's focus away from transformational development projects.

The provider faced the challenge of deploying lab environments for students in a streamlined manner that would introduce resource economies and improve flexibility, empowering trainers to deliver brilliant experiences to their students.

Solution

Six Degrees resolved the provider's lab environment challenges by deploying Microsoft Azure Lab Services for the company. As a secure cloud-led managed service provider, Six Degrees is able to remain cloud agnostic whilst maintaining a high level of application-level expertise; this was brought to bear as our consultants developed a holistic view of the provider's technical challenges whilst placing them in a wider business context.

Microsoft Azure Lab Services provides secure, shareable labs in the cloud. The solution enables the provider's trainers to provision course labs quickly and easily through pre-configured templates. It also allows students to study within the lab environments in their own time, through multiple devices, and in a controlled manner that allows the provider to maintain control over cyber security and costs.

Outcome

Microsoft Azure Lab Services, deployed, supported and maintained by Six Degrees, has revolutionised the way the provider's trainers deliver their training courses – a significant element of its careers programme. By leveraging Six Degrees' Microsoft Azure knowledge and capabilities, the provider has been able to streamline its careers programme by empowering trainers to deliver brilliant experiences to their students.

Advantages and benefits

Streamlined lab environment roll-out

Through automation and pre-configured templates, the provider's trainers can quickly and easily roll out lab environments, freeing them up to focus on delivering the best tailored training to their students.

Improved student learning experience

Students are able to access their lab environments through multiple device types when away from the classroom, giving them greater flexibility and an improved learning experience.

Enhanced reporting capabilities

Microsoft Azure Lab Services delivers superior reporting, giving trainers visibility of what their students are working on and for how long. This enables trainers to adapt and tailor individual training programmes accordingly.

Minimised operating costs

The provider can quickly spin Microsoft Azure Lab Services environments up and down, and can put limits on access time. This enables the company to control costs and only pay for exactly the resources they use.