

Cloud Services Case Study
British & International Federation of Festivals

The British & International Federation of Festivals (BIFF) looks to the power of Microsoft Cloud to help innovate and provide new ways of working for its part-time and full-time staff.



The Challenge

For over 100 years, BIFF has been supporting amateur performing arts festivals to provide performance opportunities in their local communities.

To improve flexible working for its staff and provide higher system uptime, BIFF decided to transition to a cloud environment. The driving force behind this decision was to give everyone on-demand access to the files and data they required. The decision was also made to future proof the business and avoid the expense of replacing its on-premises servers.

Then the Covid pandemic hit, and the migration had to be expedited to allow staff to work effectively from home.

The Solution

iTG migrated user data into Microsoft OneDrive and implemented Microsoft CloudApp security alongside the Enterprise Mobility Suite to provide enhanced auditing of users and alerts of any suspicious activity.

For GDPR compliance, Microsoft Bitlocker full disk encryption and Azure Active Directory were deployed to manage audited device sign-ins via the cloud, all secured using Multi-Factor Authentication and Windows Hello biometric sign-in.

Microsoft artificial-intelligence machine learning detects anomalies, such as impossible travel between two locations, to detect security incidents in real-time so any breaches can be quickly detected and prevented. All data is backed up using iTG's data centres in Manchester and Leeds.

Benefits

BIFF has benefited from improved productivity and flexible working plus greater transparency over data. Remote collaboration between trustees and charity keyworkers has been a success with all employees able to work in a scalable environment with manageable and predictable costs.

Employees' satisfaction with the new set-up has increased thanks to flexible working and the new work-life balance it has provided.

iTG provided BIFF with induction training explaining key features such as search, co-authoring in Microsoft Office, and Teams. They also created an extranet for the Board to view documents, meeting schedules and upload content back to the office to ensure convenient and secure collaboration.

"It has been a far easier transition than we thought and has made working from home so much better and faster. We can collaborate on documents despite being in different places which has really helped when supporting our members. The Trustees have really appreciated the ease with which they can now pick up documents in a secure environment."

Claire Lloyd - General Manager