

Family Zone

Case Study



MECHANICAL
ROCK

The Client

Family Zone is a cyber safety platform with over 134,000 paying accounts. They provide both internet filtering and time-based control of devices, putting the control back in the hands of parents and schools.

Like many organisations, Family Zone were looking to **reduce operating costs** and **enable their engineering teams to work on business problems** rather than infrastructure plumbing.

Cloud Native architectures are a key enabler of providing cost effective services and enabling higher levels of agility in business.

Family Zone's aim was to **replatform an existing service**, providing a framework for migrating their entire suite of applications to a more **cost effective and easier to operate solution**.



The Problem

Migration To Google Kubernetes Engine

Family Zone asked Mechanical Rock to migrate a service running directly on virtual machines to Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE) on Google Cloud Platform (GCP).

Following the initial discovery, Mechanical Rock was engaged to deliver:

1. 30% cost savings on infrastructure costs.
2. Kubernetes knowledge transfer, enabling the team to pursue future migrations.
3. A fully production-ready service to serve customers in a specific region.
4. Best of breed Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery (CI/CD) tooling to expedite value delivery.

The Solution

Total Cost Savings of 37%

An initial 10% cost saving was achieved by migrating to GCP and tuning virtual machine sizes.

Then by adopting containers and Kubernetes to better utilise the virtual machines, Family Zone were able to increase savings by a further 27%.

GKE, Google's managed Kubernetes offering, is best of breed and allowed Family Zone to perform the required application tuning to deliver a significant improvement in operating costs.



Google Cloud Platform



kubernetes

Market Leading Monitoring

By also implementing market leading monitoring tooling, Family Zone are now able to test their systems under loads much higher than their typical use case and debug it without impacting end users.

By leveraging Google's internal network, Family Zone are able to deliver application performance that is unachievable in their existing service.

This benefit will be replicated across all applications as they migrate to the GKE platform on GCP.

The Solution



Compute Engine



Kubernetes Engine



Google Cloud Build



Cloud Load Balancing



Cloud Deployment Manager



Cloud Storage



Cloud VPN



Google Container Registry



Cloud IAM



Stackdriver



VPC

The Benefits

The Mechanical Rock solution offered a number of key benefits:

- One-click deployment of all infrastructure required for a region.
- Leveraging Google's internal network to provide better application performance.
- Infrastructure cost savings of 37%.
- Uniform monitoring of all infrastructure and application components, allowing for simpler operations.
- Zero-downtime deployments using rolling updates, allowing for no customer impact upgrades.
- Infrastructure as code, allowing for repeatable deployments and deleveraging of key resources.
- Operational knowledge spread across the wider team, allowing for better flow of work.

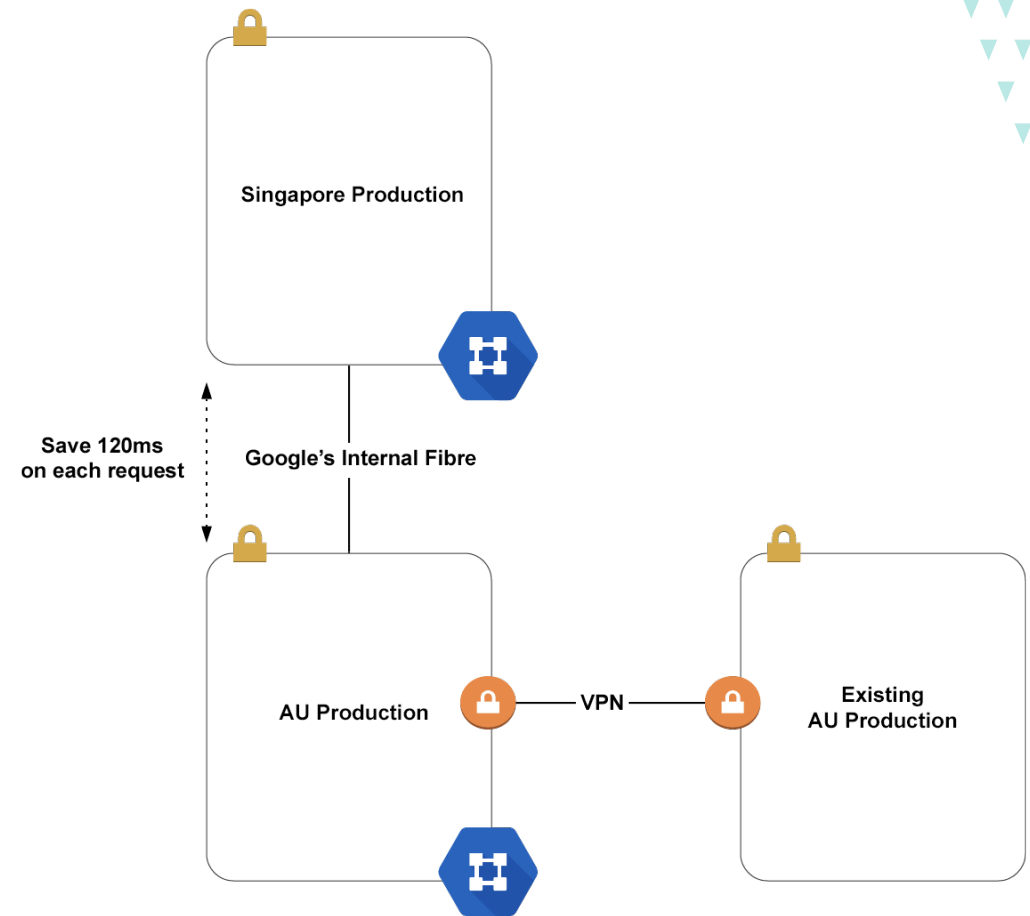
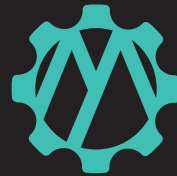


Diagram: Leveraging Google's internal network to provide better application performance.



Think we can help with your project?

Get in touch so we can chat about your plans over a coffee

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