

# Transformed Accounting Firm to 100% Hybrid

#### **Client Overview**

A mid-sized accounting firm, consisting of 20 users, initially relied on an outdated, on-premise IT infrastructure to manage their daily operations. As remote work became essential, the firm found itself struggling to maintain productivity without making a significant investment in new hardware.

### The Challenge

The accounting firm's original IT setup included an **on-premise server** with **remote desktop services** and **on-site backups**. While this setup had been sufficient in the past, the transition to a **hybrid workforce** exposed serious limitations:

- The server's hardware was aging, and upgrading it would have cost the firm an estimated \$30,000 to \$40,000 in new equipment.
- The firm needed to support employees working from multiple locations while ensuring secure access to sensitive client financial data.
- They were looking for a cost-effective solution that would eliminate their dependence on on-premise equipment and reduce maintenance costs.

# The Solution:

ITS NYC introduced the firm to Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD), a cloud-based solution that enabled them to transition away from their reliance on on-premise infrastructure. The solution included:



Azure Virtual Desktop: This allowed the firm's employees to securely access their desktops and applications from any location, without the need for a physical server in the office.



**Cloud Backups:** By migrating data to the cloud, the firm eliminated the need for on-site backup solutions, ensuring their data was secure and recoverable in the event of any technical failures.



**Extended Life of Existing Equipment:** By moving to the cloud, the firm was able to extend the life of their current desktops and laptops, avoiding the need to immediately upgrade their hardware.

#### The Results:



Cost Savings: The firm avoided a \$30,000 to \$40,000 investment in new server hardware. The transition to AVD was completed for \$15,000 to **\$20,000**, representing a significant cost savings.



Increased Flexibility: The new cloud-based infrastructure allowed employees to work from anywhere, enhancing productivity and collaboration without being tied to the office. This was especially valuable during periods of high demand, such as tax season, when team members often needed to work remotely.



Simplified Onboarding/Offboarding: The cloud environment made it easier to onboard new employees and quickly offboard departing staff, ensuring secure access to critical systems was managed efficiently.



**Compliance and Data Security:** By moving their data and applications to the cloud, the firm ensured that their client information was stored in a highly secure environment, reducing the risk of data breaches and maintaining compliance with industry regulations.





#### **Conclusion:**

The accounting firm was able to successfully transition to a **100% hybrid workforce** while avoiding the significant costs of upgrading their on-premise infrastructure. The move to **Azure Virtual Desktop** not only provided the flexibility they needed to support remote work but also extended the life of their existing hardware and enhanced data security.

ITS NYC's cloud-based solution empowered the firm to focus on serving their clients without worrying about the limitations of their IT infrastructure. For law firms facing similar challenges with remote work and compliance, a similar cloud transition could provide the flexibility, security, and cost-efficiency needed to thrive in a modern work environment.

#### Key Takeaways:

- **Cost Savings:** Avoided a \$30,000 to \$40,000 hardware investment.
- **Cloud Flexibility:** Employees can securely work from anywhere.
- **Compliance and Security:** Cloud backups ensure sensitive data is protected and regulatory compliance is maintained.
- Efficient Onboarding: Simplified management of new and departing employees.



# How ITS NYC Can Help Accounting Firms:

Law firms, much like this accounting firm, are grappling with **remote work**, **cybersecurity risks,** and **compliance issues**. ITS NYC can help financial practices:

- Transition to cloud infrastructure that supports a hybrid workforce.
- Ensure **compliance** with industry regulations like **DFS 500.**
- **Reduce IT costs** by extending the life of existing hardware and avoiding expensive upgrades.

**Ready to modernize your firm's IT infrastructure?** Contact ITS NYC for a <u>free consultation</u>.

