

# European retailer accelerates time to market for cloud-native projects with Platform9

“Platform9 supports our CI/CD commitment to more releases, more updates, more customer value, better experiences, and more flexibility from a services point of view. This is how we want to go forward: faster deliveries and easier pipelines.”

-Kingfisher Digital Platform Manager

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## Executive Summary

Platform9's Managed OpenStack solution enabled this international retailer to achieve its key technology transformation objectives via a cost-effective, highly reliable, production-grade private cloud solution. The IT team values the managed services element of the Platform9 offerings.

### Top 5 benefits include:

1. Cloud-Native Time to Market
2. Ease of deployment
3. Unlocking the potential of microservices architectures
4. Hybrid Cloud Solution Support
5. Future-proofing for future microservices deployments

## Customer Background

The client is an international retailing group, specializing in home improvement products, selling in over 1,300 stores in 10 countries across Europe.

## Customer Requirements and Challenges

Behind the scenes, Kingfisher IT plays a major role in keeping the stores, e-commerce websites, and backend systems optimized to support the business. As part of a multi-year digital transformation initiative, the company wanted to embrace hybrid cloud architectures, and evolve its internal applications development efforts to a containerized microservices model.

The company desired to focus on enabling cloud native services while freeing itself from the burden of recruiting and retaining staff to run the Kubernetes stack.

Proven at  
Enterprise Scale

**Platform9's managed service eliminates cloud operational burden enabling cloud native services for the business.**

Elegant balance of CI/CD delivery for the cloud native environment.

Freeing the enterprise from the burden of recruiting and retaining staff to run the Kubernetes stack.

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## Customer Challenges:

Challenges	Description
The company had already validated the value of a private cloud architecture through an OpenStack resource it had deployed, but needed alternatives.	The client was approaching a refresh point and the company sought a more flexible solution with multi-platform abstraction that would enable deploying applications across hybrid multi-cloud environments.
Monolithic e-commerce platforms for each of the client operating companies required resolution.	The customer needed to move into the future with containerized microservices that could be used across all of their locations and that could support their CI/CD delivery view of the world.

## Customer Solution and Benefits - Top 5

The company saw Platform9's Managed Kubernetes and Managed OpenStack solutions as essential to its efforts to decompose the array of monolithic applications it used to support its 1,300 stores. This would also push logic and computing to the edge using cloud-based microservices. Platform9's unified native developer API, which supports multiple environments, was a key factor in this decision.

Benefits	Description
Accelerated time to market	The customer has experienced a 10x improvement in time to market for cloud-native projects with Platform9's API-first design, orchestration, and automation.
Ease of Deployment and Use	The combination of Platform9's SaaS offering and its managed services model has provided the company with an ease of deployment and use that it didn't find in other offerings. They recognized the great value in the simplicity of installation and the ongoing operating model.
Unlocking the power of Microservice Architecture	The company has realized the promise of containerized microservices architecture and sunsetted its monolithic legacy systems.
Flexibility of a Hybrid Solution	The company enjoys the flexibility of running applications and services within an on-premises private cloud as effectively as the public cloud.
Preparation for the Future	The customer feels the experience gained in microservices, containerization, and hybrid cloud deployments as being solid preparation for key future development imperatives.

Platform9's SaaS managed cloud solution enables the client's key mission: optimizing the retail business by supporting stores, e-commerce websites, and backend system assets.

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