

CASE STUDY

HARNESSING BENEFITS: HOW MIGRATING TO SHAREPOINT BOOSTED BROOKE'S OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY



Challenge

Migrating 15 TB of enterprise content from Alfresco to Microsoft SharePoint

Solution

Content analysis, optimization and migration, link redirector

Benefits

All content is available in SharePoint, resulting in more insight and control

● A better life for working animals

Brooke is an international charity that protects and improves the lives of horses, donkeys and mules which give people in the developing world the opportunity to work their way out of poverty. They reach 1.4 million animals across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Brooke staff includes vets, animal welfare experts, and advocacy and development specialists.

To be able to collaborate and communicate well with their hundreds of employees and volunteers worldwide, a well-functioning IT infrastructure is of the utmost importance – including documents that are stored correctly and can always be found.

● Migrating to Alfresco

After deciding to move the biggest part of the IT infrastructure to Microsoft 365, there was still the legacy file storage solution Alfresco to take into account. The sensible thing was to migrate to Microsoft SharePoint, especially since that was already included in the Microsoft 365 license. But Brooke had been using Alfresco for over a decade—it contained about 15 TB of 'mystery documents'. As Jon Whitford, Head of Information Services Operations at Brooke, put it: "We had very large amounts of data, all very complex structures, very complex permissions. We didn't really know that much about our own data. We didn't know how much of it was useful."

"I was very happy with the way the Xillio project team worked together with us. Communication was excellent, and I was very pleased with the level of technical skill. I won't pretend it wasn't hard work, but it was a pleasure to work with Xillio for this."

Jon Whitford, Head of Information Services Operations

● Enter... Xillio!

Jon and his team were well aware that migrating those 15 TB would be a challenging job. Xillio came in and kicked off the discovery phase. After their analysis, the project team shared detailed reports and statistics with Brooke, so they could assess the next steps. Jon recounts, "That allowed me to spend a couple of months going through everything. With that information at hand, I felt very comfortable making the decisions on what should be deleted or archived before we migrated everything else."

In the end, only one third of the raw data was migrated to SharePoint. Thanks to the thorough preparation, the migration itself was "a piece of cake", as Xillio's Global Sales Lead Ruud de Wolf put it. Jon confirms, "The response to migration has been very good at Brooke, with very few support calls or issues".

● No broken links

Because Alfresco had been such an important pillar in Brooke's content household for many years, a lot of documents included internal links to other content stored in Alfresco. After the migration, these links would no longer work, disrupting several important workflows. To overcome this, Xillio has implemented a link redirector. This tool efficiently redirects

content requests to the correct source, regardless of the original or current location. Jon is very pleased with the way the tool has been implemented. "The Xillio team were very helpful. We got everything working exactly as we wanted it."

● Integrated file storage

The SharePoint and content migration resulted in a lot of gains for the non-profit organization. Jon: "The main one is the fact that because we are largely solely in Microsoft 365 now; we have file storage that integrates with everything. It's not a separate system, so the files people are using every day show up in Teams. People are much happier using SharePoint than they were with Alfresco."

Finally, Jon emphasizes the monetary upside of needing a single license for their entire enterprise content management platform. "Rather than spending very large amounts of money licensing and running infrastructure for Alfresco every year, we figured it was worth just spending a chunk of money on the one-off cost of having someone help us move everything." The money saved will benefit thousands of working animals and the communities that depend on them.

About Xillio

These days, your organization needs to be agile to stay relevant. The same goes for your enterprise content. But where to start? The more complex your enterprise content, the more daunting it seems to take the leap. That's where we come in. Our migration experts are ready to help your organization shift seamlessly into the hassle-free cloud environment of Microsoft 365. It's time to unlock your organization's full potential.

Contact us

