

100% Cloud at PostNL Powered by HVR

Use Case



PostNL offers products and services around mail, parcel and e-commerce in the Netherlands, UK, Germany and Italy. HVR's very first implementation was a massive distributed Track and Trace application with more than 250 databases. This has grown to a variety of data integration use cases across the enterprise. Recently PostNL migrated all its applications to the cloud, leveraging HVR's cloud capabilities.

Move to the Cloud to Keep a Competitive Edge

“PostNL is a cost-driven service provider in logistics”, says IT architect Theo Koppes. “In order to keep a competitive edge, PostNL decided to commoditize its infrastructure and applications, by commissioning cloud solutions only”. PostNL wanted to move all of its existing applications and infrastructure to the cloud, with a lift and shift approach. Cloud solutions also had to provide all IT management and operations, including integration. After decommissioning its own datacenters, the next phase would be to implement a best-of-breed approach: replacing existing bespoke software for a Software-As-A-Service (SAAS) package where possible. Legacy & bespoke software were to be implemented on cloud based infrastructure services (IAAS and PAAS). PostNL initially chose Microsoft Azure as the base platform for these services.

The integration challenges PostNL faced were massive: During migration (the lift & shift stage), it needed to move applications and data to the cloud and keep the migrated applications communicating with the existing on-premises systems. Once operational in the cloud, the need for data integration between existing applications was still eminent, without being able to use an on-premises integration platform. Finally, the best-of-breed cloud solutions deployed meant integration between various cloud environments.

Three different types of integration, one solution.

HVR: Part of PostNL's Cloud Kernel

HVR's real-time data integration, already an integral part of PostNL's integration strategy, was made a core part of part of PostNL's cloud kernel. Thanks to HVR's extensive platform support, moving applications to the Azure cloud whilst keeping their existing integrations functioning proved to be straightforward. This enabled incremental migration instead of having to migrate in one big bang. Adding services operating on other cloud platforms like Amazon's EC2 has turned out equally easy. To address the third challenge, integration across cloud platforms, PostNL decided to deploy a cloud-based HVR integration service. This service is operational since the summer of 2014 and performs like a cloud integration hub for PostNL, connecting all of its suppliers. HVR's characteristics and feature set have proven to be essential for a successful cloud implementation.



Customer

PostNL

Challenges

Maintain competitive edge by replacing data centers with cloud infrastructure. Migrate application and data to the cloud.

Solution

HVR real-time data integration to Microsoft Azure and Amazon EC2.

Benefits

- Improved data management and security
- Enabled successful cloud migration integration

HVR: Improved Stability, Control and Security

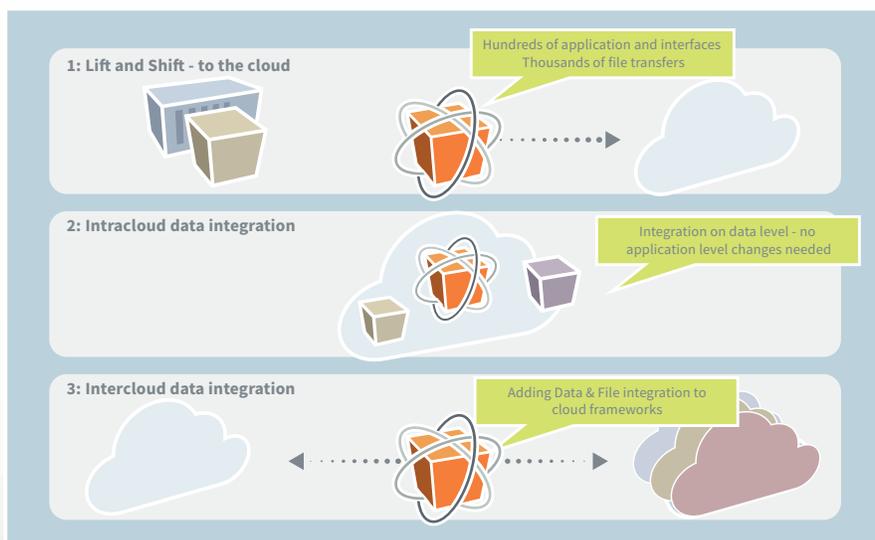
HVR is currently in use at PostNL for more than 600 interfaces, ranging from 1-1 file transfer to complex data distribution scenarios. Use cases vary from synchronization of Master Data, replication of transaction data, loading data warehouses all the way up to data integration into Salesforce & SharePoint online.

“HVR’s superior management capabilities are a hidden gem of the product” says Christine Derksen, operator at PostNL. “Implementation and management of interfaces takes only limited time; the few FTP Interfaces we also manage require much more effort. This frees up time, which is well spent on all the forelaying (cloud) challenges.”

The central installation in conjunction with HVR’s ease of use delivers great manageability of the replication processes. All jobs are administered, scheduled and controlled from one central location. This improves and simplifies the control of replication and improves security.

PostNL has over 15 years of experience with HVR for many scenarios.

“HVR has proven its stability and robustness”, Erik Jan Yntema, Director of IT Operations at PostNL says. “It keeps on running and running with minimal maintenance effort. HVR guarantees secure delivery of all our data. These aspects are even more important in running operations based on cloud solutions.”



About HVR

At HVR, we believe it should be easy to deliver large volumes of data efficiently, reliably and at the right time into your data store of choice. Our software, the HVR High Volume Replicator, does exactly this using real-time data capture between data sources including SQL databases, Hadoop, data warehousing and business intelligence data stores as well as the most commonly used file systems.

For those organizations where real-time data replication is a mission critical process, HVR has been proven to be a reliable, secure and scalable solution by some of the largest global companies and leading government and defense organizations.

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