Arsys is a European provider of Internet services, managed hosting, cloud computing or ICT infrastructure solutions. It is one of the leading technology companies in Europe, known for its innovative approach.

The company leads the Spanish market with more than 1.5 million active services, over 266,000 clients and a staff of more than 300 employees. It is also a pioneer in the development of the first European cloud hosting platform.

Arsys has two data centres. The main one, located in Logroño, houses most of the arrays and the second, in Madrid, is mostly used for deploying specific solutions, and back-up purposes.

**The Challenge**

In 2017, Arsys was considering replacing the storage platform for its business IaaS solutions, which are based on public, private and hybrid cloud architectures. It needed a state-of-the-art and versatile system that was quick to implement and simple to manage. The main objective was to consolidate multiple workloads of different corporate clients, with different types of projects (CRM, ERP, IoT, Industry 4.0), and achieve significant cost reductions. This would enable the business to enhance its competitive-edge with its customised cloud infrastructure solutions.

The Arsys service platform is a fully virtualised environment, aimed at providing services and solutions to corporate customers for practically any purpose (databases, file systems, workflows). As a result, Arsys, wanted to find a data storage solution that was able to adapt to the requirements of each of its clients, - not just in the short term but throughout its evolution, particularly as the format of the data may vary.

In addition to demanding seamless integration with existing corporate solutions, the new platform needed to be compatible with all the systems used by the company to provide Internet services to its customers (such as servers, web hosting and productivity). Critically, it should also guarantee the highest performance levels and availability in the system, as well as saving space and energy consumption - and minimising effort in data centre management. The procurement process was very detailed.

“We did not want to acquire a solution based on just one specific use case,” explains Álvaro Mata, Platform Manager at Arsys. “Adapting the architecture to suit what different clients needed was going to require a lot of time and effort.”

Faced with this situation, Arsys needed a flexible and adaptable platform that could service any scenario; an innovative solution from an agile company that could adapt to meet individual customers demands. “With InfiniBox, we found an ideal solution for these environments,” added Mata.

The proof of concept with InfiniBox was a complete success and the system went into production.
The Solution

Infinidat’s technology is now deployed as part of the data storage infrastructure at Arsys, supporting the IaaS services that deliver tailor-made solutions for multi-tenant cloud infrastructures, and those which customers use for any type of environments they have in production; from business applications to disaster recovery as a Service solutions. Arsys now uses InfiniBox arrays for data management across its virtualised environments. This is mainly for primary storage, with very high availability and performance demands. In addition, the solution has been integrated with VMware as a virtualisation platform.

Infinidat’s neural cache technology consists of machine learning algorithms that detect data behaviour patterns and allow the storage environment to intelligently adapt to any service that customers may want to deploy. Available capacity is based on the concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI), and is a key differentiator for Arsys. The environment now adapts automatically to the workloads demanded by each client.

The Results

“In just two days we had installed everything and in less than a week, we had deployed the first IaaS services based on the new solution,” said Mata.

“At Arsys we always work with vendors whose solutions are best suited to each of our environments, and the specific needs of our customers. In this case, InfiniBox has given us a performance level that is 40% higher than that of our previous storage platform, with 20% lower costs, as well as availability and flexibility offerings that are similar to other solutions that required a much higher investment,” continued Mata. “All this improves our competitiveness and directly benefits our customers.”

Future plans

Today, due to the levels of satisfaction with the acquired system and its ease of scale, Arsys has gradually incorporated new InfiniBox arrays to support the continuous growth of their customers’ needs.