



[Pražská energetika](#) is a prominent energy trader in the Czech market, with 800,000 supply points and ranks third among the largest energy suppliers in the Czech Republic.

Industry

Energy

Partner

[Information Technology and Services \(ITS\)](#) is a software company with a very strong technical background that provides its clients with comprehensive services in software product development, technological infrastructure support, setup and administration, design and consulting services, and more.

VMware footprint

- VMware® Tanzu® Kubernetes Grid™

PRE Deploys New Applications Twice as Fast with VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid

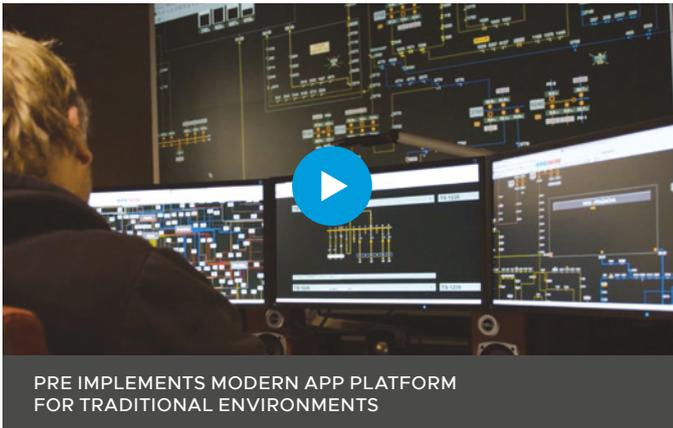
When developing its applications for the energy market, Pražská energetika (PRE)—one of the largest Czech energy sellers—must also quickly deploy them. As part of its efforts to succeed in the competitive market and keep its place among the best, PRE has implemented VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid to accelerate application availability to clients and provide the IT department with the best tools.

Distributing energy throughout the Czech Republic

Pražská energetika is a prominent energy trader in the Czech market. The company has 800,000 supply points and ranks third among the largest electricity providers in the Czech Republic. PRE supplies energy to clients based on B2C and B2B models. The primary activities of PRE include selling and trading electricity and gas throughout the Czech Republic, distributing electricity in Prague, electricity generation and supplementary energy services, including generating energy from renewables. To keep its place in the supply chain, the company needs to be able to react quickly to market changes and, most importantly, client needs. This also places significant demands on the IT department.

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Petr Kyndl, System Administrator, Pražská energetika



Stable systems that flexibly adapt to the market

PRE develops and implements modern technological solutions for its clients and helps them in innovative ways. Instead of falling behind and being hindered by traditional applications and platforms, the company decided to modernize its IT structure and find a new cloud-based application platform. This solution would serve as the basis for easily integrating new applications with new functionality into existing and new application environments. “Pražská energetika made the first request to implement containerization in 2018, many years before this trend began appearing in corporate IT strategies,” explains Petr Kyndl, system administrator, PRE.

In 2019, PRE had already implemented a test version of VMware vSphere Integrated Containers. One year later, in 2020, PRE reached out to its partner, ITS, for help with containerization. After thoroughly examining the situation, ITS suggested cooperating with VMware and implementing VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid as the most suitable solution. The VMware solution streamlines operations across a multi-cloud infrastructure.

“Traditional applications and platforms require a lot of routines and manual work. Implementing each change was time-consuming, expensive and potentially risky. As a supplier of energy solutions, we must have stable systems that adapt to the market and are able to very quickly implement any new function or application,” Kyndl says. IT structure failures and malfunctioning systems can have a direct impact on the PRE clientele user experience.

VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid, the most suitable solution

“The team of developers and IT infrastructure specialists from ITS examined the situation at Pražská energetika and selected VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid with a geographically distributed cluster as the most suitable solution,” says Lumír Srch, CEO, ITS. The VMware partner then led PRE through all the innovation phases, from consultation and creation of a modernization concept to actual implementation.

“VMware was also the number-one choice due to the need to move from a public cloud, where application development and testing were taking place, to an internal cloud, where the applications really function,” says Kyndl. Tanzu Kubernetes Grid ensures effective and streamlined multi-cloud strategy operations.

More flexible implementation of new applications

Tanzu Kubernetes Grid has made the work of the PRE IT team easier. The company can now more flexibly implement new applications and modify existing ones. At the same time, Tanzu Kubernetes Grid helps keep all functions up to date using containers. The goal is to shift 100 percent of the web applications to containers. “With VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid, we’re more flexible when developing new applications and modifying existing ones. Before, developers had to wait for infrastructure inputs. Now, they can seamlessly deal with all the tasks directly, meaning implementing changes now takes less than half the time. This means we can ensure high availability, which is especially crucial in the area of services for our clients,” explains Kyndl.

Even some applications directly related to the operation of the power grid and electricity distribution are expected to be containerized. This cannot be precisely quantified for technological applications, as implementation will take longer due to the rigidity of the energy systems. However, it will contribute towards the stability of the IT structure at the company and, together with the speedier implementation of new applications and smoother running systems, will have a direct impact on the proper functioning of electricity delivery to PRE clients in the future.



The strategic significance of implementing new functions

The impact of this innovation will be of strategic significance to PRE. The time needed to implement new functions and applications has now been cut in half, making working with clients easier and increasing their satisfaction levels while reducing the risk of clients going to competing suppliers. The deployment of containers makes it possible to use a smaller number of servers, thus reducing energy consumption and environmental impacts.

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Future cooperation

Implementing VMware solutions has proven that innovating IT structures has a significant impact on the operation of the whole company. From initial analysis and implementation to final consultation, the professional approach taken by the VMware and ITS partnership opened up the potential for further cooperation in implementing VMware technologies. In addition to expanding Tanzu Kubernetes Grid to all web applications, PRE also expects to deploy VMware NSX® in 2023.

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