A transformational IT strategy to drive the *Autosports Group* further

Platinum Technology transformed Autosports Group's IT infrastructure, boosting efficiency, security, and innovation in the automotive industry.

Background

In 2023, the Autosports Group contacted Platinum Technology requiring expertise and support. While ASG had experienced significant growth over the years, they had no IT strategy and the lack of past investment was impacting their business operations.

> Our experience with Platinum Technology was transformative. Their technical expertise in upgrading our complex systems to a secure Microsoft public cloud environment was outstanding. The team's professionalism and the seamless collaboration in redesigning our firewall and switching infrastructure underpinned a significant modernisation without impacting our daily business operations. Their ability to meet deadlines and ease of partnership sets them apart. Standardising our networks and computing environment has brought immense efficiency gains.
> *Darryn Ferris, Chief Information Officer, Autosports Group*

CHALLENGES ⌄

- **Infrastructure Disparity:** No unified infrastructure architecture or standardisation across almost 100 sites.
- **Aging Systems:** Outdated data centre, network, and end-user computing hardware was in need of replacement.
- **Siloed Operations:** Standalone systems at almost 100 sites, leading to inefficiencies and security risks.
- **Lack of Centralised Support:** No centralised IT support services for the Autosports Group sites.

SOLUTIONS ⌄

- **Enterprise Architecture:** Architected and built a secure backup and recovery solution integrated with both short and long term data retention, ensuring both resiliency and redundancy. In addition, Platinum Technology designed & implemented a 'warm standby' HA design into the solution, which was tailored to meet specific RPO/RTO objectives set by the board without incurring significant cost.
- **Hardware Modernisation:** Replaced core data centre firewall and switches with advanced technology, improving security and providing centralised management.
- **Intune SOE:** Introduced a Standard Operating Environment.
- **SASE:** Rolled out Fortinet SASE (Secure Access Service Edge) providing secure access and endpoint protection for their distributed workforce.
- **SDWAN Network:** Rolled out a Fortinet SDWAN solution for efficient site interconnectivity.
- **Connectivity:** Rolled out Centralised HPE Aruba Access Points and Switching Infrastructure for reliable network access across all sites.
- **Cloud Migration:** Transitioned to Microsoft 365 and Azure for modernised operations.
- **Centralised Support:** Established an onshore service desk as the central hub for IT support across all locations.

BENEFITS ⌄

- Seamless connectivity
- Bolstered security
- Operational excellence
- Asset management
- Resiliency and redundancy
- Enhanced user experience
- Centralised support

Audit	Consulting	Projects	Networking	Migration	Security	Maintain As A Service

OUTCOMES

Innovation and Strategic Impact:

❯ **Unified IT Vision:** The centralisation of data and IT operations, paving the way for strategic innovation and agile decision-making.

❯ **Security and Reliability:** The introduction of SASE and robust security measures and data backup/restore protocols significantly reduced risk and increased operational reliability.

❯ **Operational Excellence:** With a new SOE and enhanced IT support, Autosports Group has heightened its operational capabilities, providing a consistent and improved user experience.

❯ **Cost-Effective Resource Management:** Improved asset management and reporting systems enabled effective tracking and maintenance, leading to cost savings and resource optimisation.

❯ **Enhanced Connectivity and Flexibility:** Implementation of SDWAN and cloud services provided flexible, scalable, and secure networking solutions.

❯ **Digital Transformation Facilitation:** By spearheading the transition to cloud platforms, Platinum Technology positioned Autosports Group at the forefront of digital innovation within the automotive industry.

BENEFITS

- **Security Advancements:** Improved backup strategies and system patching fortify data integrity and safety.
- **User Experience:** A standardised user environment and centralised service desk improve end-user efficiency and satisfaction.
- **Asset Management:** Enhanced asset reporting and management contribute to cost efficiency and performance.
- **Seamless Connectivity**: Advanced network solutions ensure consistent company-wide connectivity.
- **Digital Empowerment:** Cloud technologies empower the workforce and catalyse digital transformation.
- **Centralised IT Strategy:** A unified IT strategy for all sites enables strategic decision-making and operational efficiency.
- **New Business IT Integration:** Platinum Technology took the reigns of IT integration for new business acquisitions to ensure a seamless transition.

Centralised support and bolstered security drive ASG to new heights in efficiency, connectivity and operational excellence.

ABOUT

The **Autosports Group**, established in 2006, now encompasses over 55 retail businesses across ANZ with a diverse portfolio of luxury automotive brands. They have grown from a single dealership to a significant presence with 2000 users across 100 sites after being listed on the ASX in 2016.

Platinum Technology specialises in Managed IT and Enterprise Consulting services for mid-market and large organisations. With deep technical expertise in Microsoft Solutions and extensive enterprise experience, they design, implement, secure and manage Microsoft Cloud Infrastructure solutions.