Executive Summary

Techwave, is chosen as a strategic technology partner by Aparna Enterprises Limited for AWS architecture and deploying the environment that is most suitable for the S/4HANA greenfield deployment and assist with the testing and enabling production cutover. The main benefit of S/4HANA is the innovation cycle that it allows enterprises to evolve into an accelerated pace, using modern ERP technology for better business performance and gain competitive advantages. Deploying S/4HANA in cloud offers lowered TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) and TCI/TCO (Total Cost of Investment/Ownership) and best suited to flexible user experience.

As part of the digital transformation journey, Aparna Enterprises Limited, herein referred as AEL has implemented SAP S/4HANA 1709 and went live with the ERP environment on AWS Cloud in February 2019.

Challenges

- Consolidated view of financials with the accuracy and timeliness
- Disparate systems not providing a unified view for the C-level executives
- Up to date inventory visibility
- Providing consistent access to distributed construction sites spread over 200 locations
- Improving efficiency, reliability and systems scalability
- IT enabled business planning reduced to days instead of months
- A managed services approach to Infra which is not based on CAPEX but OPEX model
- Be on the cutting edge of technology by adopting a cloud platform for rapid agility and innovation

Integrations

AEL have two integrations, one with Win-Optimize and another with biometric which are interfaced with SAP. The current SAP landscape consists of DEV, QA, SOLMAN and PRD systems with all the instances being deployed on AWS Cloud. No component is onprem except the customer gateway which is used for VPN connectivity to the AWS cloud.

About Aparna Enterprises

Aparna Enterprises Limited (AEL) is a part of the highly successful Aparna Group. Founded in the year 1990, AEL prides in having the largest market share in South India through a range of businesses in building-material products, such as RMC (Ready Mix Concrete), uPVC windows and doors, uPVC profiles, Tiles and Sanitary ware fittings. Associated with several landmark projects for over 29 years, AEL is globally renowned for setting benchmarks in technology, research, design, and quality.

What initially started as a business in ceramic tile distribution, today stands tall as a pioneer in multiple business ventures. Aparna's history upholds its genuine expertise in providing a diverse range of building material products. With technically sound solutions, building-materials are still at the core of what we do. Aparna Enterprises constantly embraces new technologies to produce the most advanced and best quality outputs.

Scope of Work

Aparna enterprises engaged Techwave to architect the AWS environment conducive to their business growth and enable rapid technology adoption with minimal transition time. Along with AWS infra architecture Techwave had to address SAP S/4HANA system performance needs, stability and operational ease. Also, the critical underpinnings of secure and cost-effective environment was mandated by the client in the overall architectural approach. As the customer did not have trained staff in AWS and S/4HANA, Techwave will not only architect the solution, but will continue to provide managed services post-production cutover and assist with DR and any security compliance measures needed for ISO:270001 directed technological safeguards.

The scope also required to architect agile Dev, SOLMAN and QA environments which can facilitate new business process integration with relative ease and no investment in 3rd party software or tools, e.g. leveraging AWS native services in the framework of cloud to the maximum extent possible. This includes network, storage, middleware, Databases and backups. This is a greenfield S4/HANA deployment and so no conversion or migration from previous SAP deployments or other efforts involved.

Availability of the environment in a 24x7x365 time frame is essential to the client's sustained business productivity as the construction activity was undertaken round the clock. At no point, customer could afford downtimes stretching into hours. The S/4HANA backup and recovery needed to be factored in across multi AZ and in rare cases multi region. So, customer environment has to be templatized in an IaC (Infrastructure As a Code) format so repeatable and readily launchable environments are available at the click of a button. Due to the SOR (System of Record) nature inherent to S/4HANA; data integrity was sacrosanct and has to be ensured all the time.

Outcome and Benefits

At the end of the project the main objectives of the customer to have their mission critical SAP S/4HANA system in a very stable, secure, highly flexible, readily scalable and providing deployment agility for any environment e.g., Prod/QA/Dev/UAT/SIT is realized. Additionally, the business availability and the secure access to the environment is also attained. The accessibility to the distributed (remote construction sites) work force via various devices was made possible. Customer today is well prepared to handle any IT needs for business expansion in a 100% OPEX model without long procurement cycles. Building on the success of this deployment client is empowered to experiment with emerging and proven technologies related to IoT, Analytics and BI. AWS has been a solid foundation for them going forward and Techwave was proud to have partnered with Aparna Enterprises in this endeavor.

Conclusions

AEL is currently using the following ERP functionality in AWS and since the migration, the plat form proved to be stable, reliable and providing the business benefits envisaged.

- Finance and controlling
- Sales and Distribution
- Materials Management
- Production Planning
- Quality Management
- Plant Maintenance
- Success Factors
- Human Capital Management
- Workflow
- ABAP

About Techwave

Techwave is a global digital transformation partner with over 14+ years of business head quartered in Exton, PA. With 1200+ employees worldwide and 2 regional delivery centers (RDCs) and a global delivery center (GDC) service 400+ customers across 11+ countries. Techwave with 8 integrated business units brings a high quality of services with integrity and agility to its customers. Techwave is a CMMIDEV/3 and certified as NMSDC MBE company. It is recognized as fast growing company by Inc. 5000 and other.