



Substantial Delivery Gain for Sentient PPM Software

Background

Founded in 2004, Sentient filled a Portfolio Program Management industry gap, where existing solutions were expensive, took years to implement and offered little flexibility. By contrast, Sentient's private cloud PPM is available anywhere, anytime to anyone with internet access.



Equinox IT is a positive group of clever people, doing what they say they'll do in a timely fashion and with a very collaborative approach. We are very positive to have an efficient development pipeline that we have confidence in.

Grant Simpson, COO, Sentient Software

Today Sentient PPM is used by Australasia's leading enterprises to maximise return on investment across their portfolios, programs and projects.

Challenge

While Sentient was proud of its PPM product, they felt they could improve their cloud and product delivery approaches.

One issue they had was the use of fragmented tools across development, test and deployment, leading to longer release cycles and increased licensing costs.

While they had trialled Azure DevOps to consolidate toolsets, they wanted to achieve more from this platform.

As a Microsoft Partner, Sentient were also deploying services to Azure, but wanted better insight into resources deployed, costs incurred and Microsoft benefits used to ensure they maximised the value and only paid for what they needed.

Work

Sentient's expertise focused on their industry leading Portfolio Program Management solutions, and so they looked to Microsoft Gold Partner Equinox IT to provide specialist skills for optimising their cloud strategy and product delivery approaches.

With the help of Equinox IT, Sentient:

- Re-architected their Azure cloud platform and migrated existing workloads.
- Commissioned and decommissioned environments based on need.
- Replaced legacy continuous integration (CI) tools with Azure Pipelines.
- Automated end-to-end testing processes with Azure DevOps.
- Tightened security controls across their code, environments and directories.
- Trained their teams on using Azure DevOps.
- Optimised their Microsoft services and platforms to a single monthly invoice.

Outcome

Sentient realised substantial improvements from the changes made, positioning them for continued leadership in the PPM market. Outcomes included:

- Cost savings – saved 65% of existing Azure costs, simplified cost management (via the CSP programme), consolidated license fees and improved development team productivity.
- Faster time to market – delivering value to their customers quicker with shorter development cycles, less manual effort and greater efficiency from Azure DevOps.
- Improved reliability and security – greater certainty to Sentient customers from tighter security, stability and governance measures across Sentient's product and Azure platform infrastructure.

- Productivity and culture improvements – using DevOps approaches to improve development and operations transparency, efficiency and working relationships.

Microsoft Gold Partner Equinox IT helped Sentient deliver these outcomes using its Kickstart Cloud and Cloud Foundations services.



Get in touch

Find out how we can help you accelerate delivery with automation and Azure DevOps.