

News Release

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TOWERGATE SELECTS MICROSOFT AZURE AS CLOUD SOLUTION FOR IT TRANSFORMATION

Accenture, Avanade and Microsoft work together to help Towergate streamline its business and reduce costs

LONDON – June 22, 2016: [Towergate](#), a leading independent insurance intermediary in the UK, has selected Microsoft as its partner for cloud-based computing on the Azure platform, one of the first in the insurance market to move key IT services to the cloud. To help support its IT transformation, Towergate has also selected [Accenture](#) (NYSE: ACN) and [Avanade](#) as its integration partners to deliver Microsoft Azure services and to roll out the end-user computing solution on the Windows platform. Accenture and Avanade were recently named as the Microsoft 2016 Alliance Partner of the Year.

Towergate's IT transformation programme focuses on four service towers: networks, data centres, end-user computing and service support. Microsoft Azure will be the cloud platform for Towergate's data centres and end-user computing will be based on Windows 10, Office365 and Skyline for Business.

Towergate has selected Microsoft as a cloud provider that could not only provide stability and resilience, but also offer flexibility through consumption pricing that allows Towergate to manage costs in the current estate as the business volumes grow. Azure also gives Towergate the flexibility to acquire and integrate more business units, deliver new products and solutions at speed, as well as provide more streamlined services to its customers.

"Microsoft offered us the products, expertise and an approach to partnering that exceeded our expectations. Together with Avanade and Accenture, this team gives us the confidence that moving to the cloud is the best approach for our business, our people and our customers. Our IT transformation programme will leave us uniquely placed in the insurance market to capitalise on opportunities in the future, unencumbered by legacy infrastructure" said Gordon Walters, CIO at Towergate.

Fraser Moffat, Avanade UK Financial Services senior director said: "Towergate is a leader in its field not only within the insurance sector, but by moving to the cloud it is boldly setting itself apart from the rest of the industry. This programme will integrate all parts of the business, help control costs and ultimately offer better experiences to its team members and an enhanced service to customers."

Chris Forrest, Head of Financial Services at Microsoft UK said: "Towergate has selected the right platform and partners to help it transform and thrive in the cloud-first, mobile-first world. The Microsoft Cloud, combined with Avanade and Accenture's industry knowledge and implementation expertise, will accelerate Towergate's cloud adoption, enable data-driven insights and increase flexibility to deliver the right services to its customers."

Hammad Rafique, Managing Director of General Insurance at Accenture said: “We are thrilled to be leading this programme and working together with our friends at Microsoft and Avanade to help Towergate rapidly deliver this game-changing cloud operating model. This transformation will help Towergate smartly connect its IT infrastructure, software applications, data centre and operation capabilities in order to become an agile, intelligent and resilient digital business in the immediate future.”

About Towergate

Towergate is an entrepreneurial company, led by people with a reputation for innovation and professionalism. Since 1997, when Towergate entered the insurance market, it has grown to become a leading independent insurance intermediary in the UK, turning over approximately £3 billion of gross written premium across its different companies. Visit us at www.towergateinsurance.co.uk.

About Accenture

Accenture is a leading global professional services company, providing a broad range of services and solutions in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Combining unmatched experience and specialized skills across more than 40 industries and all business functions – underpinned by the world’s largest delivery network – Accenture works at the intersection of business and technology to help clients improve their performance and create sustainable value for their stakeholders. With approximately 373,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries, Accenture drives innovation to improve the way the world works and lives. Visit us at www.accenture.com

About Microsoft

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq “MSFT”) is the worldwide leader in software, services, devices and solutions that help people and businesses realise their full potential.

About Avanade

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital and cloud services, business solutions and designed experiences delivered through the power of people and the Microsoft ecosystem. Our professionals combine technology, business and industry expertise to build and deploy solutions to realize results for our clients and their customers. Avanade has 29,000 digitally connected people across 23 countries, bringing clients the best thinking through a collaborative culture that honours diversity and reflects the communities in which we operate. Majority owned by Accenture, Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at www.avanade.com.

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