



**Customer:**  
Hardware & Lumber Ltd.

[www.hardwareandlumberja.com](http://www.hardwareandlumberja.com)

**Customer Size:** 12,111

**Country:** Jamaica

**Industry:**  
Retail & Distribution

*Hardware & Lumber Ltd. is Jamaica's leading provider of quality products, services and solutions in the home improvement, construction and agricultural sectors.*

*The company owns and operates 10 Rapid True Value stores and 5 H&L Agro locations throughout Jamaica. In balance with the retail business is a network of field representatives serving and interacting with commercial business customers and partners, government entities and research institutions.*

For more information about other tTech customer successes, please visit:  
<http://ttech.com.jm/ttech/case-study/>

## Cloud infrastructure model was best for both cost and management effectiveness

### CHALLENGE

In 2015, Hardware and Lumber became a separate entity from GraceKennedy Ltd. After separation from GraceKennedy Ltd they lacked the necessary server and network resources as those being used had belonged to GraceKennedy Ltd. Hardware and Lumber needed their own infrastructure to begin to operate as an independent entity. The only infrastructure they had was a single host machine to be used as a server.

Mr Stephen Lewis, Information Technology Manager at Hardware and Lumber, needed to decide how the requisite infrastructure would be built in an efficient, cost-effective and time sensitive manner as operations were at a standstill until this was implemented. tTech Limited presented cloud infrastructure as not only an option but also as an alternative to on premise infrastructure. Microsoft Azure, Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) cloud infrastructure model was recommended for both cost and management effectiveness. With this model in place there was no need for physical space and the infrastructure would be in the cloud ready for use. Hardware and Lumber benefitted from this model as they would only absorb the costs for the resources they used daily.

***"We realised significant cost savings and operational efficiencies from tTech's implementation of Microsoft Azure, Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) cloud based model. We benefitted from this model as we only incur costs for the resources we use in our daily operations".***

*– Stephen Lewis, Information Technology Manager,  
Hardware and Lumber Limited.*

### SOLUTION

The team at tTech Limited created a Microsoft Azure tenant to be used in conjunction with the existing host located at Pembroke. The tenant was setup with the various virtual servers and services necessary for the running of the business. These included:

- Creation of virtual servers for Domain Controller, application and other services
- Setting up Network Interface Cards (NICs) for each virtual server
- Creation of a security group for the virtual servers
- Creation of a public IP for the tenant to be able to be used to connect to the existing infrastructure at Pembroke
- Creation of a Site-to-Site VPN tunnel and VNET to allow the connection to the physical host and vice versa
- Implementation of monitoring tools, statistics and alerts necessary to keep track of the virtual environment
- Creation of storage accounts for the virtual environment
- Creation of an automation account with scheduled scripts which control the uptime of the virtual servers.

### RESULTS

tTech Limited helped Hardware and Lumber Ltd. to "hit the ground running" through the implementation of the Microsoft Azure environment.