

Case study

Legal interoperability and policy switch in the cloud



Lequa and IT-Total enable accountability, responsibility, and traceability in the digital world

Industry

Identity and Legality

Objective

Extend Lequa's platform to a worldwide audience by launching in the cloud

Approach

Engage with HP PartnerOne Service Provider IT-Total to deliver an open platform that can scale globally

IT matters

- Delivers a scalable platform in each nation for legal protection and accountability
- Opens the platform to local legislation specifics and apps from ISVs
- Allows IT to focus on platform development vs. hardware management

Business matters

- Enables new geographic deployments in minutes vs. weeks with Flexible Capacity
- Avoids CAPEX associated with building new physical data centers
- Extends cost savings to customers

LEQUA

“With HP Helion at the center of our model, we can deploy a new platform in four minutes. Since we want to roll this out to the world, that’s an astronomical savings to us.”

– Johan Wilén, Chief Sales Officer, Lequa

Swedish technology leader Lequa was born in 2010 as the result of many organizations coming together with a single, collective vision: establishing respect for basic human rights and legal equality in the digital environment. Its goal is to discover effective methods of digital interactions and transactions in a way that mirrors interconnection in the physical world. Lequa recently launched its new cloud-based Lequinox® platform with the help of HP PartnerOne Service Provider IT-Total, and powered by HP Helion.

Accountability in the digital age

In the world of social media, instant messaging, and multiple email accounts, it's hard enough to manage a single identity in this digital world. Try managing a whole company. What about a company whose employees are in different countries, each with its own set of privacy and security policies that are constantly changing? It's enough to confuse today's best minds.

As gargantuan as the concept sounds, there is a dire need for solutions in the space that can meet legal discovery demands so you and your employees are always protected.

Enter Lequinox platform—a solution that bridges business policy requirements and the IT infrastructure that enforces them. Connected to the process critical points, it lifts digital interactions to the level of compliance and legal assurance required for professional interactions.

Evolving identities

Developed by Swedish innovators at Lequa—a contraction of the words legal and equality—the platform enables solutions that bridge the physical and digital worlds. “In the physical world, we have ways of handling identity securely,” says Johan Wilén, chief sales officer at Lequa. “Unfortunately, that's not how the digital world has evolved.”

In the digital world, how do you prove you made an interaction? How do you prove you are who you say you are? “All this information today is living in a database somewhere, which makes it hard to prove who did what and when it occurred,” Wilén explains. “Our solutions make it possible for companies and individuals to define roles, and then define how and where interactions happen.”

Initially, Lequa offered the Lequinox® platform as an integrated hardware-software solution. “It was a great way to allow companies to create their own digital starting point for archiving and empowering their applications, while delivering capabilities such as digital signatures, ownership rights, privacy and integrity issues, as well as liability and responsibility,” Wilén relates.

Scaling beyond hardware

When the company began looking at ways to expand its solution by offering it to companies who didn't want to invest in an accompanying hardware platform, Lequa began researching the cloud. But there were problems.

“If you're looking to truly localize and manage the accountability, responsibility, and traceability of identities, you can't actually have your platform with Google or Amazon,” explains Wilén. “You run into problems because you don't always know where your data is being stored. In which one of the three major worldwide locations does your data actually reside? There were too many questions.”

The team even set out to build its own cloud. And then while at HP Discover in Barcelona, Lequa met solutions provider and HP partner IT-Total. “We were both at the event and started talking about the cloud, and that’s when it clicked: We could partner together and offer our solution as a distributed service,” Wilén recalls.

Local expertise, global ambitions

IT-Total is an HP PartnerOne Service Provider with extensive experience in leveraging HP Helion OpenStack to help its customers broaden their successful solution. “When we first began talking, it occurred to me that the Lequinox® platform could really be a perfect use case for the HP Helion environment,” says Christer Alm, CEO of IT-Total.

“The way HP distributes cloud all over the world means there are local presences in every country, which would make it possible for Lequa to distribute its solution through the cloud worldwide and yet keep data local within each country,” Alm explains.

A platform is born

After the meeting, both Lequa and IT-Total did their research and discovered that indeed the solution would work. If Lequa made agreements with service providers in each country, empowering the cloud-of-clouds with full legal interoperability and support from national legislation, industry and business policies for all interacting parties

The two technology companies made an agreement. “Once we found out how Helion and the PartnerOne Service Provider system was structured, we knew we had found our answer,” Wilén says. “This is better than building our own cloud on so many levels.”

Astronomical savings

For instance, deploying a platform on Lequa’s own hardware would normally take weeks in each location. “With HP Helion at the center of our model, we can deploy a new platform in four minutes,” Wilén explains. “Since we want to roll this out to the world, that’s an astronomical savings to us.”

It also means huge upfront capital savings for Lequa. “Because the cloud infrastructure already exists in HP Helion, and the hardware already exists with the local ISV, we have zero hardware deployment costs, which is absolutely massive for us, and an enormous opportunity for service providers to offer our tools to help their customers meet local legislation,” Wilén says.

Open for business

Because Lequa partnered with IT-Total on the initial launch, IT-Total became the first HP PartnerOne Service Provider to offer Lequinox® services to market. Their digital signature app, Total Sign, is just the tip of the iceberg. Already, other vendors and ISV’s have begun developing apps for traceability at financial institutions, and risk-reduction and compliance in the business world.

Customer at a glance

Application

- Various applications and services based on the Lequinox® platform

Infrastructure

- HP Helion CloudSystem powered by OpenStack

Hardware

- HP BladeSystem c7000 Enclosure
- HP ProLiant BL460c Server Blades
- HP ProLiant DL360 Servers
- HP Virtual Connect FlexFabric
- HP 3PAR StoreServ 7000
- HP Networking 5920AF-24 switches
- HP StoreFabric 8/24 SAN switch

Software

- HP CloudSystem Matrix Operating Environment
- Red Hat® JBoss EAP 6.2.X
- Red Hat® RHEL 6.X
- VMware vSphere® ESXi™
- HP Integrated Lights-Out
- HP Intelligent Management Center
- HP Insight Remote Support

HP Services

- HP CloudSystem implementation services
- HP Flexible Capacity
- HP Datacenter Care Services

The solution is already gaining traction in Europe, with interest growing in Australia and the United States.

For IT-Total, it's a victory as well. When large, centralized clouds were gaining traction several years ago, Alm resisted jumping into the game. "I've always been skeptical of large, public clouds," he explains. "I've been fighting to keep our business locally based in Sweden because I think there are major advantages to knowing where your data is actually stored."

Solid foundations

Alm and his team are realizing benefits from HP Helion as well. Instead of purchasing hardware and building the solution outright, IT-Total uses HP Flexible Capacity, paying

only for the capacity it uses. Built on HP BladeSystem with HP ProLiant blade servers, HP 3PAR StoreServ storage, and HP Networking Solutions, the infrastructure gives IT-Total the flexibility to onboard new customers without massive startup costs or deployment times.

It's a scenario that allows IT-Total to scale as customer growth requires. "Our commitment HP Helion means we can offer customers like Lequa a total solution that gives them a point of entry to the world market," Alm says. "Together, we can scale their solution globally in the cloud with full support of national legislation, industry and business policies."

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IT-TOTAL

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