

IKEA

Background

The IKEA U.S. team responsible for designing, planning and building stores for the Swedish home furnishings retailer works primarily with computer-aided design (CAD) drawings. The team interacts with architects, consultants, contractors and engineers throughout the United States who create architectural renderings and structural documents of IKEA retail stores. Constant, frequent and timely access and file sharing is required among team members.

IKEA Business Challenges

While IKEA could successfully plan how customers walk comfortably through a store, it couldn't find an effective path to safely share and access files until it found Egnyte, a leading provider of cloud storage solutions. The architectural renderings were the problem. The CAD files were large, and moving the files clogged the company's e-mail servers, affecting workflow and impeding progress on projects.



“Egnyte's ease of use and performance provide exactly what we need to get the job at-hand done as efficiently and cost effectively as possible.”

- Phil Szuch, IKEA Build-up Project Manager

IKEA looked at two possible internal solutions, but both had drawbacks, namely: (1) giving vendors server access would create layers of security problems; and (2) putting the CAD files on CDs would stall the creative process. Additionally, solutions proposed by CAD software vendors were not cost-effective and proved to be unsuccessful during trials.

The Solution

IKEA then researched external options, and discovered the cloud. Using Egnyte's affordable and scalable cloud-based file server, IKEA freed e-mail servers, maintained the desired security level and facilitated better collaboration among its distributed team of design engineers. Vendors and company officials now drop and access files via the Egnyte server. No matter where team members are located, each has instant access to all files.

The property and retail expansion department of IKEA U.S. uses Egnyte power user seats for key internal function leaders, and standard user seats for vendors. The team also has added a remote virtual drive to store all back-end CAD drawings for easy access.

Key Benefits

- Ease of use
- Ability to handle exceptionally large files
- Continuous synchronization for latest file versions

“As cloud computing steadily gains in usefulness, IKEA has found the technology – and particularly the server solution provided by Egnyte -- to be integral to enabling multiple IKEA locations and various consultants to access and share large-scale files. Egnyte's ease of use and performance provide exactly what we need to get the job at-hand done as efficiently and cost effectively as possible.

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TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Over 1 Billion files are shared daily by businesses using Egnyte. Egnyte provides the speed and security of local storage with the accessibility of the cloud. Users can easily store, share, access and backup files, while IT has the centralized administration and control to enforce business policies. Egnyte, founded in 2007, is based in Mountain View, California and is a privately held company backed by venture capital firms Google Ventures, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, Floodgate Fund, and Polaris Venture Partners. For more information, please visit www.egnyte.com or call 1-877-7EGNYTE.