



INTEGRATION SOLUTIONS IN MICROSOFT AZURE CLOUD



The application that XTGlobal created for us drastically reduced the time spent on downloading customer data from a variety of sources. What was taking 8 – 10 hours a week has been automated with the Azure Cloud Solution and now takes a few minutes per week.

–Director of Client Technology Services of a Leading Accounting Firm



OVERVIEW

In this digital era, one major challenge that most of the CPA firms face relates to sourcing and analyzing of data from multiple sources. With an increasing number of data sources, complexity in information, and increasing regulations with regards to data, there is a need to have a robust platform that will make this process of data generation/capture, storage, usage, and archival/disposal seamless and secure through automation and optimization.

XTGlobal's client was also facing a similar challenge wherein it needed access to aggregate financial information from various sources. XTGlobal developed a robust and secure solution to handle the data lifecycle and analysis process using MS Azure PAAS Solution, the leading cloud platform. Microsoft Azure Products provided the client with the server, databases, and software licenses with zero capital investment. Within a short span of development time, the client was able to launch their business services. Thanks to Rapid-Application-Delivery (RAD) model, XTGlobal built the custom-solution on the Microsoft Azure platform. Integrating the solution with Yodlee, a third-party financial data aggregator, helped the client quickly and securely access critical customer data.

ABOUT THE CLIENT

The client is a leading CPA firm, offering diverse accounting-based consulting services to mid-market customer firms since 1965. They were looking for a secure, robust solution to automate the end-to-end data delivery with integration to a third-party API.

CHALLENGES

The high volume, velocity and variety of information assets require advanced forms of processing if they are to be used as insights for decision making. For CPA firms, access to information from multiple banks or financial institutions is the key to assessing their customers' financial health and provide advisory or consulting services based on this data. Bank statements, information on assets & liabilities, transactions, investment holdings, and current account data make up a chunk of this data. Apart from a holistic view of their customer's data, the CPA firm also needs regular access to the financial data to do further analysis of their customers' assets and liabilities.

The client wanted a customized solution that will help them access the required data from Envestnet Yodlee, a data aggregator platform, subject to approval from their end customers.



We had the concept of what we wanted to do but weren't sure how to make it happen. We needed to connect different systems, create a middleman application, and had no idea how to get that done in the Cloud.

-Challenge Defined by the Client

SOLUTIONS OFFERED BY XTGLOBAL

A. DEVELOPMENT OF CUSTOMER PORTAL

XTGlobal created a Cloud-Native Solution on Microsoft Azure using Azure App Service, Azure SQL Database, and Azure Repos, to make the access to data sources both automated as well as on-demand.

XTGlobal developed a customer portal using Azure Webservice, which allows the customers of client to grant or revoke access to their data, sourced through Yodlee API. This builds trust and transparency to the client's consulting services.

It also enables the end customers to link or unlink their bank accounts in such a way that they have full control of granting access to select-accounts.

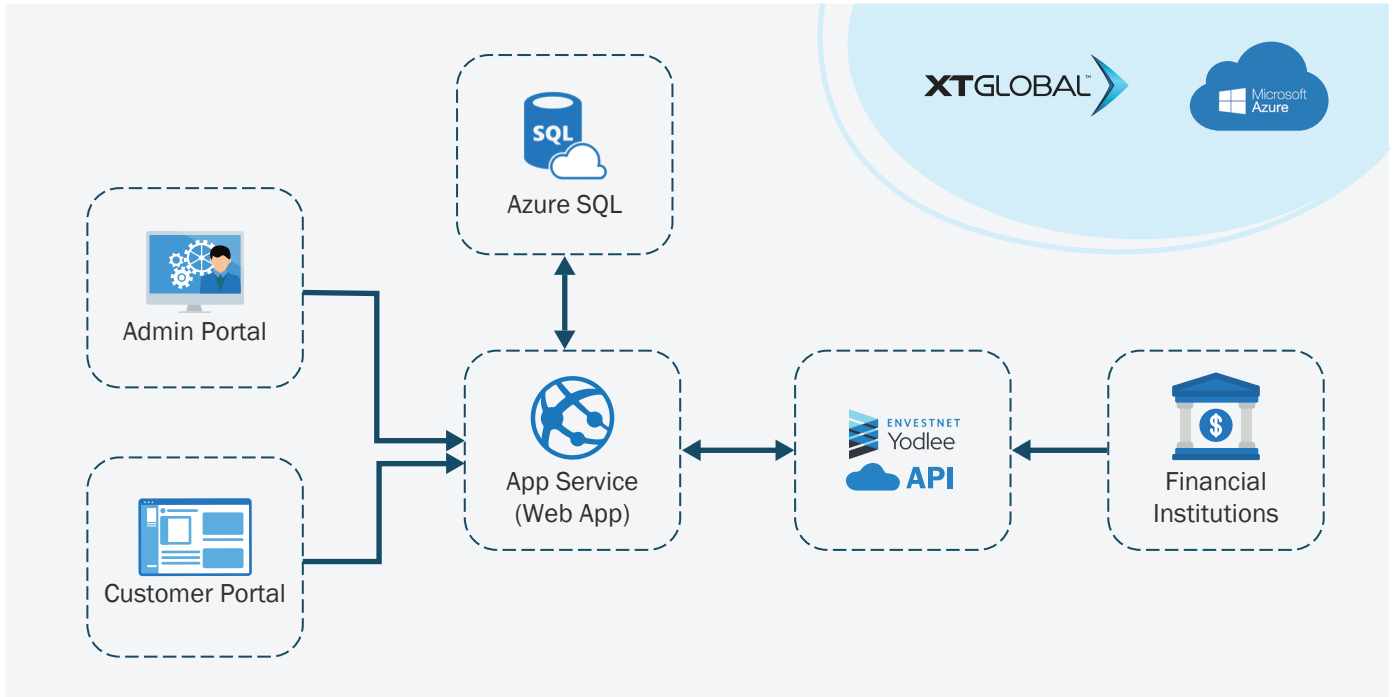
The Internal Portal has functions to manage the customer onboarding, user-account set up and on-demand data retrieval.

On-demand data retrieval includes a facility to share the downloaded data via Citrix Share, which eventually populates the data to the targeted server of the client.

The portal data is stored on Azure SQL Database- an intelligent, scalable, relational database service built for the cloud.

B. INTEGRATION SOLUTIONS

XTGlobal was challenged with integrating the Azure Cloud solutions with a third-party API, which was Yodlee in this case. Both Azure and Yodlee platforms have enormous capabilities and functions, tied around multiple use cases. Picking the best, while meeting the requirement is what ideally drives a better solution. In this case, integrating Azure services with Yodlee API requires a deep understanding of both to design a secure, optimal, effective solution. After an extensive analysis of API and Azure, XTGlobal created the perfect integrated solution which addresses the client's current challenges and also scales up in the future.



C. AUTOMATION OF DATA RETRIEVAL

XTGlobal developed the Windows Service application to automate the retrieval of the financial data from Yodlee API and populate on the targeted server of Client. Authentication is performed with Yodlee’s JWT token algorithm.

It is flexible that it can be configured manually to customize the parameters and executed according to the needs of the business process.

TECHNOLOGIES USED



AZURE APP SERVICE

A fully-managed platform with built-in infrastructure that enables quick building, deployment and scaling of web apps and APIs.



AZURE SQL DATABASE

A scalable, relational, cloud-based database service with AI-based automated updates, backups and provisioning and advanced security features.



AZURE REPOS

A Cloud-hosted DEVOPS Repository Service that supports Team Foundation Version Control (TFVC) and securely connects with Azure Repo from any IDE.



The folks from XTGlobal helped us work through the technical details of connecting different systems and developed a Cloud Native solution in the Microsoft Azure that does all we wanted it to do. I have worked with other tech companies in the past, and the communication, follow up and sticking to the timeline was better than I have seen with any other company.



-Client's Opinion About XTGlobal Solution and Support

RESULTS



440+
Hours

Time Saved in a Year by Automating Financial-Data-Sourcing Process



4X
Faster

Customer Onboarding



3
Weeks

Time taken to Develop the Solution with MS Azure Cloud Solutions



\$0
CAPEX
Investment

For Infrastructure, Server Licenses and Software Tools

XTGLOBAL™

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