

# Skyscanner flies into the cloud with iomart Hosting

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iomart Hosting, one of the UK's leading cloud computing and managed hosting providers, has taken Skyscanner, Europe's leading travel search website, into the cloud to support its objective of becoming the number one flight search engine in the world.

Skyscanner specialises in cheap flights (<http://www.skyscanner.net>) and deals on over 600 airlines, as well as prices for car hire and hotels. Visits to the Skyscanner website have increased year on year to the point where over 14 million people use it every month. To cope with this huge and ever-growing demand for its service, Skyscanner needed cloud hosting (<http://www.iomarthosting.com/cloud-hosting>) backed by the most powerful servers. It turned to iomart Hosting.

Craig Parker, Director of IT at Skyscanner, explains: "It's vital that the Skyscanner flight search engine is always available because people are accessing it from many different countries at all times of the day and night. iomart Hosting's support has allowed us to scale up as fast as possible, while still allowing us to serve our millions of customers in a professional, responsive and personal manner."

iomart Hosting supports the entire global portfolio of Skyscanner domains, which range from Spanish (Skyscanner.es) to Japanese (Skyscanner.jp) and Korean (Skyscanner.kr). This is all housed in a private cloud, backed by an enterprise grade SAN solution.

Phil Dalbeck, Infrastructure Architect at Skyscanner, explains: "Migrating from a traditional physical infrastructure platform to a fully virtualised private cloud provides the business agility Skyscanner needs to support our exceptional growth. Capacity planning is no longer the headache it once was, and the business can now expect to see additional server resources deployed within minutes rather than weeks."

The iomart Hosting team helped Skyscanner's technical team deploy a cutting-edge VMware installation, with powerful custom built servers providing N+1 resilience and high performance. The database layer comprises a number of Fusion-IO equipped SQL Servers delivering previously unattainable I/O performance.

Phil Dalbeck adds: "Our move to FusionIO completely redefined the capabilities of our presentation database systems – stability, performance and scalability have been improved by several orders of magnitude by leveraging the best technologies for the job. Working with a hosting partner prepared to work with us in deploying such cutting-edge technology is vital to our success."

Sarah Haran, managing director of iomart Hosting, says: "Skyscanner demanded high performance and high availability plus the ability to react quickly to market demands by the provision of additional resources. iomart Hosting provided consultation and benchmarking services, procured cutting edge hardware which we installed in our fully-owned high-spec data centres, ensuring that Skyscanner and its millions of customers get the best service possible. "

The Skyscanner cloud operation is housed in iomart Hosting's data centres, where entire floors are provisioned with high power racks in cold aisle containment with dual A+B feeds to each rack.

Sara Haran says: "iomart Hosting and Skyscanner have a lot in common. We are both fast growing companies gaining worldwide reputations for what we do. iomart Hosting is proud to be providing hosting for Skyscanner as it aims to dominate in its chosen market."

The Skyscanner website is available in 27 languages and is offered as a mobile site as well as both an android and iPhone app, the latter of which has had more than 2 million downloads.

Phil Dalbeck says: "Skyscanner is a technology-focused business and our service is reliant on the stability of our datacenter equipment. iomart's datacentre team has a no-nonsense, can-do attitude to support which takes away the pain of day to day hardware maintenance allowing us to focus on the bigger picture."

iomart Hosting is a subsidiary of iomart Group plc which is ranked as one of the top 25 cloud services providers in the world by Talkin' Cloud 50 and was named Scottish Digital IT company of the Year 2011.

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News release issued on behalf of iomart Hosting by Jane Robertson, Head of PR for iomart Group plc. For more information please email [jane.robertson@iomart.com](mailto:jane.robertson@iomart.com) or call 0141 931 6474 (dir), 0141 931 6400 or 07827948993 (mob).

Notes for editors:

#### About iomart Hosting

iomart Hosting is one of the UK's leading providers of complex managed hosting and cloud computing services to the enterprise market. It owns and manages its own network infrastructure, including five UK data centres, offering a unique 100% uptime guarantee. Services include: Private and Hybrid Cloud, Colocation, Content Delivery Networks, IP Transit, Cloud Storage and Email.

Clients include: Cimex, BT plc, Stagecoach, Newsquest, Learndirect, SoftCat, London School of Economics, Shine TV, STV, and Servecentric.

iomart Hosting is an ISO9001 & ISO27001 certified company. The company is fully accredited at Gold Partner level with VMware, Oracle and Microsoft. It is part of AIM listed iomart Group plc.

#### About iomart Group plc

iomart Group is one of the UK's leading providers of managed hosting and cloud computing services. From a single server through to private cloud networks, iomart specialises in the delivery and management of mission-critical hosting services, enabling customers to reduce the costs, complexity and risks associated with maintaining their own web and online applications.

By physically owning and managing its own global network infrastructure, iomart offers world-beating levels of service to its customers. The Group offers a unique 100% uptime guarantee with all hosting services being engineered to ensure no single point of failure.

iomart Group operates in its chosen markets through a number of subsidiaries: iomart Hosting, RapidSwitch, Titan Internet, Easyspace and Westcoastcloud. The group has been listed on the London Stock Exchange's Alternative Investment Market (AIM) since April 2000.

For more information about iomart Group plc visit [www.iomart.com](http://www.iomart.com)