



## MSA

Architecture, Engineering, Surveying  
& Professional Consulting Firm

### ABOUT

#### MSA Professional Services, Inc.

MSA Professional Services, Inc. (MSA) is a progressive architecture, engineering, surveying, and professional consultation firm with 18 offices across four states. MSA has been a resident on the ENR Top 500 Design Firm list for the last 22 years, reaching position #336 in 2020.

### THE CHALLENGE

MSA consists of approximately 350 engineers, architects, planners, funding experts, surveyors, GIS experts and environmental scientists. Despite long-term adoption of hosted desktops, the engineers were unable to access GPU applications remotely and struggled with presentations. The cost-prohibitive replacement of these GPU workstations presented another challenge.

As time passed, this nuance became a prominent issue for MSA's engineering teams. Early attempts to implement remote access to these resource intensive applications proved faulty. The results were excessive latency and jumpy mouse responses, coupled with slow internet speeds across rural areas - the impact on productivity seemed insurmountable. Without remote access, the costly, high-powered workstations were only valuable on premise.

MSA set a goal to migrate all of their disbursed users into a single virtual environment. They sought a stable, remote solution that could deliver high performance for engineers and designers to work on 3D modeling and rendering. The ideal solution would result in remote access to demanding graphics applications, fostering the ability to collaborate in real-time and increase productivity. In addition, MSA was ultimately seeking a solution that is cost effective.

### THE SOLUTION

IronOrbit provided MSA with their flagship INFINITY Gold Workspaces that supports its most demanding applications, including AutoCAD, Revit, Civil 3D, Enscape, Sketchup, ArcGIS, MicroStation, and Adobe Creative Cloud. These cloud desktops will offer MSA's engineering team with the capability of working remotely, regardless of rural internet speeds.

IronOrbit's solution will allow MSA to reduce capital expenditures for replacement hardware. With a fixed, all-inclusive monthly fee, it will simultaneously enable MSA to forecast and budget for their operating expenditures.

#### It also provided them with protection from disasters by:

- 1 **Hosting business-critical IT applications and assets within a secure, 24/7/365 accessible environment.**

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# CASE STUDY



- 2** Multi-site replication to ensure reliable backups and aggressive RPO and RTO protocols.
- 3** Facilitating real-time access and collaboration from anywhere on any device, across multiple offices and states, including rural locations with insufficient internet access and speeds.

IronOrbit's GPU-based cloud infrastructure also grants MSA with the ability to collaborate across their 18 office locations, and overcome the challenges surrounding the presentations.

**Mike Albitz -  
Senior Systems Engineer**



When COVID-19 started, we were able to provide latency-free workspaces to users with substandard home internet connections using IronOrbit. What started out as a move to optimize our business operations really ended up becoming a lifesaver for our organization.



## **ABOUT IRONORBIT**

IronOrbit, a division of SACA Technologies, is a privately owned and fully integrated Information and Communications Technology (ICT) powerhouse. With more than 300 years of combined industry expertise, IronOrbit innovates, develops, and produces comprehensive ICT solutions, specializing in GPU-accelerated cloud workspaces.

IronOrbit operates their own global footprint of private data centers across more than twenty regions worldwide, utilizing SOC 2 Certified, Tier 4 facilities to provide cloud services and their flagship hosted desktop solution, INFINITY Workspaces, to thousands of customers, including the US government.

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