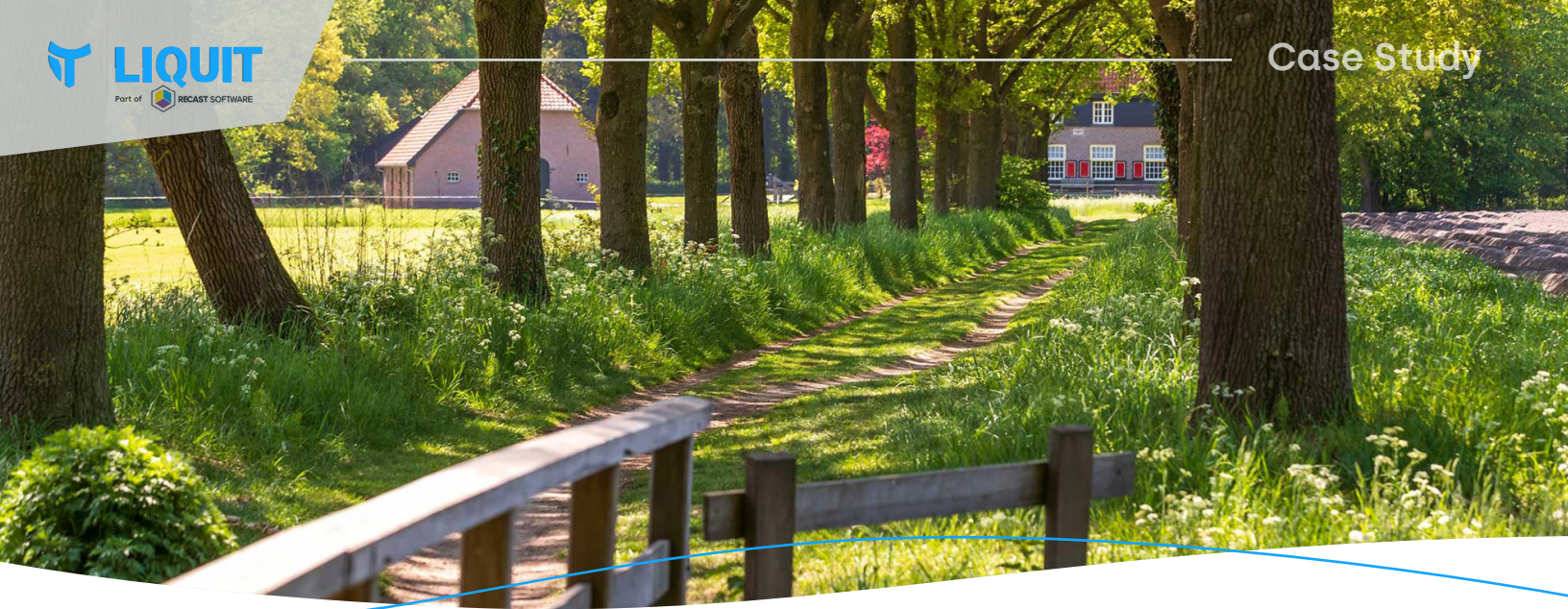




## Liquit Simplifies Citrix Migration to a Modern Workspace for Berkelland Municipality





## About Berkelland Municipality

With almost 44,000 inhabitants, Berkelland is the third largest municipality in the Achterhoek region in the Netherlands. The municipality strives to provide residents, business owners and guests with the best possible services. The 400 employees are proud of the work they do supporting the entire community via their modern workspace.

## The Challenge

The IT environment of the municipality of Berkelland consisted of a Citrix environment with thin clients, which needed to be replaced to deliver a remote hybrid work environment for all employees. The goal was to consolidate and reduce the complexity of managing various IT resources such as the Citrix environment, SaaS applications and locally installed apps. The modern workplace vision for the municipality had already been written out by a former employee. The plan called for centralized application delivery and management to increase efficiency. This would save a lot of time by reducing application deployment, updating, and patching complexity.

The current legacy Citrix XenApp server architecture would prove to be a challenge in migrating to the new modern workspace. According to Berkelland Municipality ICT Manager Nenad Vasiljevic, they needed to find a solution to replace the Citrix architecture and seamlessly migrate to the modern workspace they envisioned:

“Before the corona pandemic, we were already looking for a cloud solution replacement for Citrix because we wanted to give our users a laptop. The IT infrastructure needed to be as simple as possible for our end users with transparent access to the applications they needed regardless of the device.

## Finding the Path to the Modern Workspace with Liquit

Municipality Berkelland compared Liquit with a number of providers and chose Liquit in early 2020. Following a one-month Proof of Concept to test Liquit in their real-world environment. The pandemic speed up the implementation and transition. With the solution going live in June of 2023, Nenad reflected on the process and why Liquit was the right choice:

“At the time of the first demo in late 2018 early 2019, there were not that many references within the government, so you go by your gut. Liquit was completely new for us, but it proved it offered what we needed and what we find convenient in terms of setup, convenience, and rollout. It was also important that Liquit provided lots of bells and whistles that made it flexible, easy to manage and allowed us to go in all directions and link with the Citrix environment. End users don't care how that happens since they just click on an icon to start. IT determines what happens next in terms of what software or intelligence is behind the icon.”

“The result is a slick and ‘future proof’ infrastructure, capable of linking and integrating existing systems. With Liquit, you can pick up and build things very quickly with no issue being too difficult, and that is exactly what you want as an IT person. We haven't run into a problem that couldn't be solved, such as how to use an application in the office or at home. There are certain applications for a government that you can only use in the office. Those are behind shielded connections that make it easier to enforce that much better than before.”



According to Nenad, 95% of the software applications built for Citrix have now been migrated and he spoke about the process and the outcomes:

“The migration process was a challenge, but the word we’re getting back from the organization is very positive. That is because the Liquit Workspace is unambiguous, so people don’t have to worry about the start menu or a particular structure. You can see everything in the portal, which is a big plus for the user. For us IT people, it means far fewer management tasks than with a Citrix environment, which is a win-win situation for administrators and for users. The Liquit platform offers a lot of flexibility and possibilities with a solution for every issue, which is a big plus for us. We regularly find ourselves saying ‘Super that they thought of that too.’

## The Solution

The solution offered allowed the Citrix server park to be downsized. There is now a modern workspace with Intune and Autopilot for deploying Windows Devices that enables improved security and compliance. Liquit Workspace and Liquit Release & Patch Management now facilitate more advanced application management and context-based deployment, access, and automatic updating. Within the Liquit Workspace is the Citrix StoreFront connector for invoking Published Apps for the Citrix environment in Liquit Workspace. Access Manager provides Single-Sign-On, allowing users to log in only once to access multiple Citrix Published Apps and Desktops.

## The Results

Municipality end users now have flexible and modern access to all applications and settings, which has increased user satisfaction and reduced management issues. Updating applications on laptops has become much easier for IT admins. Even if a user needs to reinstall his/her laptop, it is much easier and saves a lot of time.

Nenad explained how this modern workspace environment has positively impacted the municipality through cost and time savings:

“We saved on Citrix licenses on the one hand and on hardware on the other. Because we purchase Liquit as a Service, we also have far fewer management tasks. We still use a few specific legacy municipal applications along with some Centric Software applications. The municipality will take another look at how we can migrate these apps using Liquit Smart Icon technology and implement another application virtualization environment.

“Liquit offers many advantages in terms of costs, in terms of management, in terms of user satisfaction. The user always comes first. For our IT policy, costs are secondary; IT is all about the user. Liquit increases user satisfaction and convenience. If this provides something for IT, such as cost savings or management simplicity, that’s a nice bonus but not a goal.

The municipality is continuing to reduce and consolidate the Citrix XenApp servers have Citrix completely phased, and all remaining applications to be migrated to the new environment by Oct. 1 of next year. The municipality plans to integrate Liquit Workspace into the municipal SharePoint site before the summer break of 2024 to allow applications to be launched from SharePoint. Nenad explained how this has affected the reduction of TCO, sheer hardware reduction and what the future may hold:

“This Liquit migration reduced TCO by eliminating the Citrix XenApp server hardware and software. The full Liquit platform has a cost, but it has saved us 30% on licensing and management costs. And that doesn’t include the more intangible savings in convenience for end users and IT administrators. Now that Liquit has been acquired by Recast Software, we are curious to see what additional features or functionality will become available within the Liquit platform and whether that is of interest to us. Security is a hot topic for us; so, we’re adopting a zero-trust policy in the coming year. I’m sure Liquit will have something new to offer there as well.”

## About Liquit

Founded in 2015 in the Netherlands, Liquit is a software vendor that delivers Enterprise-ready End-to-End Application Management for Hybrid Environments. Liquit bridges the gap between the IT department and the end-users. The Liquit platform makes accessing corporate IT resources for end-users less complex and easier than ever. With Liquit, IT departments have the tools that empower them to immediately respond to business requirements, enhance user productivity, and give their organization a competitive advantage.



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