



SOCAR Turkey Strengthens its Agile Structure with VMware and Data Market

SOCAR Turkey is a subsidiary of the Azerbaijan State Oil Company, SOCAR. It is one of the world's most established oil producers that focuses on petrochemical products and trade, refining and natural gas trade and distribution as its main investment areas.

Industry

Energy-Utilities, Oil and Gas

Strategic Priorities

Multi-Cloud

Partner

[Data Market](#), is a solutions provider and system integrator partner that customers can rely on for business-critical applications. It has been one of the leading companies in the industry for more than 29 years and has achieved over 150 corporate awards.

VMware footprint

• VMware NSX®

SOCAR Turkey is one of the world's most established oil and gas companies. After strengthening its agile structure and facilitating the network infrastructure with VMware and partner Data Market, the company is now able to manage three different data centers with a disaster recovery strategy from a single location without any data loss.

Software-defined systems provides modern outlook

In the traditional multi-layered architecture, lines of business were managed independently and in silo causing difficulties in SOCAR Turkey's daily operations and disaster recovery scenarios. When faced with these challenges, the company had to continue to run applications while meeting IP mobility and flexibility needs when required.

Previously, the physical switches were based on a network topology that enabled the company, in the event of a disaster, to continue its operations from the disaster recovery centers in Izmir or Istanbul. This traditional approach has been updated with a software-defined data center (SDDC) concept from VMware. With SOCAR Turkey's previous system, during an outage there were too many processes that had to be carried out manually in order to restore the systems, and different teams had to work together intensively. This operational burden, partially caused by daily tasks, was eliminated and the project was completed through automation with a correctly designed software-defined architecture.

Single point management with VMware

In the project implemented by SOCAR Turkey with VMware and Data Market, three data centers in three different cities are managed from a single point with VMware NSX®. Now, the company can operate all of its systems uninterrupted while synchronizing its architecture. The visionary solutions of VMware and the fact that Data Market follows VMware closely as a business partner in Turkey played an important role in this project.

When SOCAR Turkey's IT team shared its expectations, Data Market found that VMware NSX was the most suitable technology for the organization. During the project, Data Market's product and solution competence combined with its consultancy expertise, helped SOCAR Turkey to create certain rules and define the firewalls placed in front of each machine. In addition, the company's network communication was evaluated and discussed between the three parties. Then, the necessary technical configuration to meet the needs of the product were put into use.

During this period, the 'software-defined network layer' came to the fore. This structure creates significant benefits for SOCAR's IT infrastructure. The project, which started in November 2020, has given the organization full visibility of its own network. With an agile structure established, SOCAR Turkey can now use software-based firewalls, routing devices and switching technologies everywhere.

With the power of the VMware solution and Data Market's competence, a sustainable system has now been established. As a result, SOCAR's IT team is more efficient. Thanks to NSX, SOCAR Turkey's server network infrastructure is more secure and agile, as it can now apply and manage security principles. In addition, a new generation design with increased efficiency has been created for medium and long-term use, as its stability allows it to integrate with and work alongside other innovative solutions and makes future collaborations possible.

The system that Data Market has established at SOCAR benefits the IT team with additional flexible infrastructure investment value by making customized solutions when necessary and integrating with solutions from multiple manufacturers. NSX eliminates many operational difficulties such as separate configuration and the management of different network components, allowing teams to easily operate multiple network layer management jobs from a single interface, reducing operational costs. Operational efficiency has also increased, as engineers' time is now used for more value-add tasks instead of daily and routine operational workloads.

In addition, this completed investment offers geographic load balancing flexibility and lays the groundwork for next generation projects, such as adapting to federation compliant hybrid cloud business solutions from other vendors. This has enabled SOCAR Turkey to begin the next phase of its data center modernization, looking at container, hybrid cloud and internal security.

VMware is a very important part of SOCAR Turkey's IT infrastructure. The long-time partnership between the two companies continues to grow every year. VMware Horizon® and VMware Workspace ONE® are also used for network virtualization, VDI and mobile device management systems, and especially for its server virtualization. In the coming years, this partnership will continue into new areas thanks to VMware's pioneering, visionary and innovative roadmap.

“As SOCAR Turkey's IT team, we constantly work to make our infrastructure more secure, stable and agile with investments in system and network security. VMware NSX sits at the basis of our SDDC architecture and provides great flexibility and competence for our IT continuity, which is an important part of our overall business continuity.”

Akin Börekci, IT Infrastructure and Service Management Group Coordinator, SOCAR Turkey
