



Virtustream Assists Autism Speaks with Cloud Readiness Assessment and Best Practices Strategy Aimed at Optimizing IT Environment

Virtustream to Demo its Advisor Tool at the Gartner Data Center Conference This Week

San Francisco, CA – December 07, 2011 – [Virtustream, Inc.](#), a leading cloud solutions provider, today announced that [Autism Speaks](#), North America’s largest autism science and advocacy organization, leveraged Virtustream’s [Cloud Advisory Services](#) to assess its cloud readiness and to develop a cloud strategy based on industry best practices. By utilizing Virtustream’s Advisor tool, Autism Speaks’ IT department has significantly improved internal IT systems and is now executing a cloud migration strategy that will enable the organization to increase reliability and business continuity of its IT infrastructure while positioning the organization for growth.

Virtustream [Advisor](#), a compute resource discovery and analytics engine, was deployed in Autism Speaks’ IT environment to collect granular performance data on the company’s application portfolio. By pairing the compute analysis with the inputs from interviews with Autism Speaks’ executive and IT teams, Virtustream’s automated Advisor was able to provide specific requirements for their workloads in a cloud environment, in addition to providing a clear and actionable roadmap for infrastructure migration.

“At Autism Speaks we strive to support and service the Autism Community via our Research, Family Services, Awareness and Advocacy programs. It is extremely important that we create an infrastructure that is reflective of the community we are here to service. Virtustream’s services will provide us with the ability to implement our vision,” said Sherra Pierre-March, chief information officer, Autism Speaks. “Optimizing our IT infrastructure and resources is an important part of sustaining growth as we introduce new services and improve the quality of existing services. Cloud computing will provide our organization with flexible, scalable and cost-effective IT options, but we have to do it in the right way, with a data-driven process built on real-world experience.”

Virtustream Advisor uses detailed, time-phased statistics from existing virtual or physical systems to provide holistic consumption characteristics of an entire environment, which is then used to model detailed ROI and TCO scenarios for virtualization technologies and cloud services. As part of its analysis for Autism Speaks, Virtustream Advisor identified a number of workloads that would negatively impact other IT infrastructure and applications in a multi-tenant environment. The tool was also used to model total estimated charges across a number of cloud providers.

“Autism Speaks benefited from Virtustream’s expert-led evaluation to determine how an enterprise cloud platform could derive the benefits of cloud computing while meeting security, compliance and service level requirements,” said [Michael Hoch](#), vice president, Cloud Advisory Services, North America,

Virtustream. “Further, the Advisor-guided interview questionnaire with executives and end users throughout the organization was critical in determining the business attributes of specific workloads, a fundamental input to the roadmap and benefit analysis. We look forward to working with Autism Speaks along its multi-phase cloud migration.”

Virtustream will exhibit at the [Gartner Data Center Conference](#) to highlight the capabilities of the Cloud Advisory Services unit. The event, which will take place in Las Vegas, December 5-8, 2011, brings data center professionals and I&O executives together to discuss hot issues including next-stage virtualization, the impact of cloud computing and best practices in cost optimization. Virtustream, a Silver Sponsor of the event, will also demo Advisor 2.0 at its booth (#74).

For more information about the Gartner Data Center Conference, visit:
<http://www.gartner.com/technology/summits/na/data-center/>.

About Virtustream

Virtustream (www.virtustream.com) is an innovative cloud provisioning firm committed to delivering next-generation infrastructure services to enterprise class customers. We leverage our secure high performance platform, xStream, to deliver highly available and elastic compute resources at true consumption-based pricing. We lead our Cloud Platform Services with [Cloud Advisory Services](#), providing expertise in the areas of cloud adoption, migration and architecture strategies and infrastructure-related integration services. We provide ongoing support for our [Cloud Platform Services](#) through two groups: our [Cloud Cover](#) team provides a managed service, from core infrastructure through enterprise applications and the [Cloud Staging and Networks](#) group that provides colocation, security and network services. Virtustream owns and operates its own data centers in the U.S. and U.K., and has offices in Washington, D.C., New York, San Francisco, Atlanta, London, Dublin and the Channel Islands. Keep tabs on us with Twitter: www.twitter.com/rjrogers87 and www.twitter.com/Virtustream.

About Autism Speaks

Autism Speaks is the world’s largest autism science and advocacy organization. It was founded in February 2005 by Suzanne and Bob Wright, the grandparents of a child with autism. Since then, Autism Speaks has made enormous strides, committing over \$160 million to research and developing innovative new resources for families. The organization is dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for the needs of individuals with autism and their families. In addition to funding research, Autism Speaks has created resources and programs including the Autism Speaks Autism Treatment Network, Autism Speaks’ Autism Genetic Resource Exchange and several other scientific and clinical programs. Notable awareness initiatives include the establishment of the annual United Nations-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, which Autism Speaks celebrates through its Light it Up Blue initiative. Also, Autism Speaks award-winning “Learn the Signs” campaign with the Ad Council has received over \$300 million in donated media. Autism Speaks’ family resources include the Autism Video Glossary, a 100 Day Kit for newly-diagnosed families, a School Community Tool Kit, a

Grandparent's Guide to Autism, and a community grant program. Autism Speaks has played a critical role in securing federal legislation to advance the government's response to autism, and has successfully advocated for insurance reform to cover behavioral treatments in 29 states thus far, with bills pending in an additional 10 states. Each year *Walk Now for Autism Speaks* events are held in more than 80 cities across North America. To learn more about Autism Speaks, please visit www.autismspeaks.org.

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