The Driver Handbook

Your Hosting Partner

Performance. Security. DevOps.

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Challenge and background

Transport operators are - quite literally - always on the move, so driver information needs to be portable too.

Replacing paper-based handbooks and other critical information, The Driver Handbook collates everything the driver needs to know behind the wheel into a mobile app for Android and iOS.

The innovative app and associated CMS allows fleet managers to distribute and communicate essential information direct to their teams' mobile devices.

A broad range of operators from SMEs to global brands trust The Driver Handbook to help share driver information and see which drivers have read what and when.

At a turning point in the company's expansion, The Driver Handbook team needed a scalable AWS hosting solution to support growth, combined with a comprehensive support contract to underpin their development progression.

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Approach/Solution

Following the initial meeting with The Driver Handbook team, we conducted an assessment of the current hosting environment. By gaining a clear understanding of the existing system and the client's needs, we tailored our recommendations - we prioritised improving the current situation, whilst preparing for a transition to a Nublue AWS hosting platform in the future.

We found that third-party additions were cluttering the previous hosting environment, costing the client money and adding no real benefit. We coordinated efforts to identify what was in use and cancelled unrequired services in order to improve efficiency. Other parts of the account were inaccessible to The Driver Handbook, so we guided them through the steps required to gain access so that the account could be audited.

Following this, we built a well-architected AWS solution and managed their migration onto this new platform. We provided a front end solution with the capacity to auto-scale in the future if required, as well as a dedicated database solution to handle SQL queries from an optimised instance. The refined architecture was tailored to meet their specific needs and allow for easy expansion inline with future growth plans for the app and the business.

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Outcome/additional information.

Our simplified, cost-saving AWS solution achieved several technical advances for The Driver Handbook to support their business plans.

01

Accommodating Future Growth

The performance of The Driver Handbook's app is heavily dependent on database queries, so they needed to be able to accommodate future growth. To facilitate this integration, we provided a tailored, optimised Amazon Database (RDS) instance that can be easily scaled in the future to match their growth plans. The power of the AWS platform allows us to use specific components designed for specific uses, providing optimised database performance in this case.
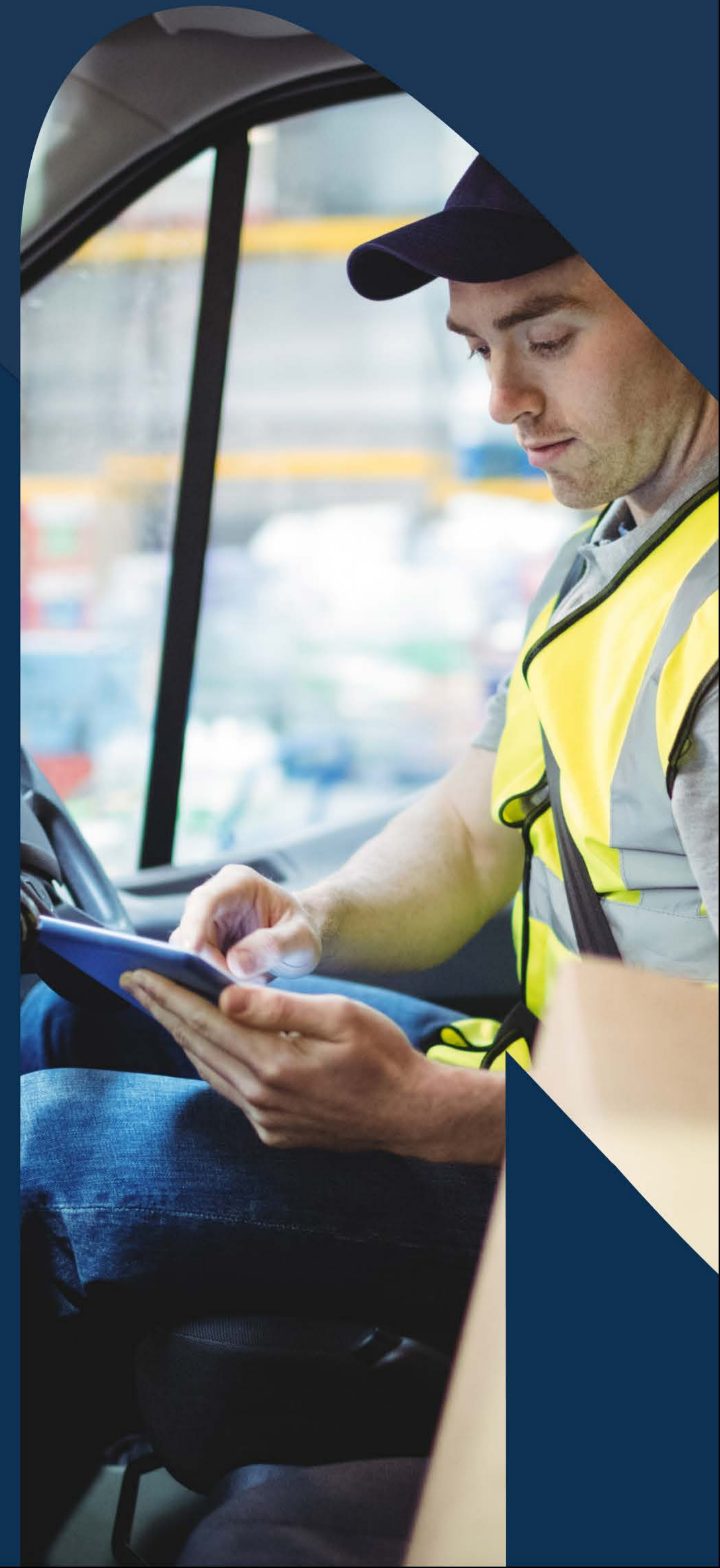
02

Communicating Regularly for Collaboration & Peace of Mind

We maintain regular contact with the development team at The Driver Handbook, meeting each month to discuss any required changes and possible opportunities. This provides their team with peace of mind that they have the right level of support for their application hosting platform.

By providing regular feedback on any upcoming development, we make sure that the hosting infrastructure is ready to support the company's ambitious growth. We guarantee that they have a hosting partner they can rely on to work with them as their business scales up.

03

Building Foundations for Now and the Future

When implementing AWS hosting, as an AWS partner we always follow best practice configuration for each component. This dedication to accuracy ultimately leads to a platform that is much easier to manage for administrators and reduces barriers to use and scaling.

After the client had successfully migrated to our hosting solution, we systematically decommissioned their legacy AWS setup. We consulted with the client-side team throughout the process and cancelled legacy unrequired components.

The Driver Handbook team now reap the benefits of a more efficient hosting system that is not only faster but is also capable of scaling in line with their business

Outcome/additional information

04 Installing Nublue Bot Blocker

We installed the Nublue proprietary Bot Blocker in order to protect the site from being crawled by unrequired or overly aggressive robots. This reduced unnecessary bandwidth use and ensured that the application performed at full capacity at all times.
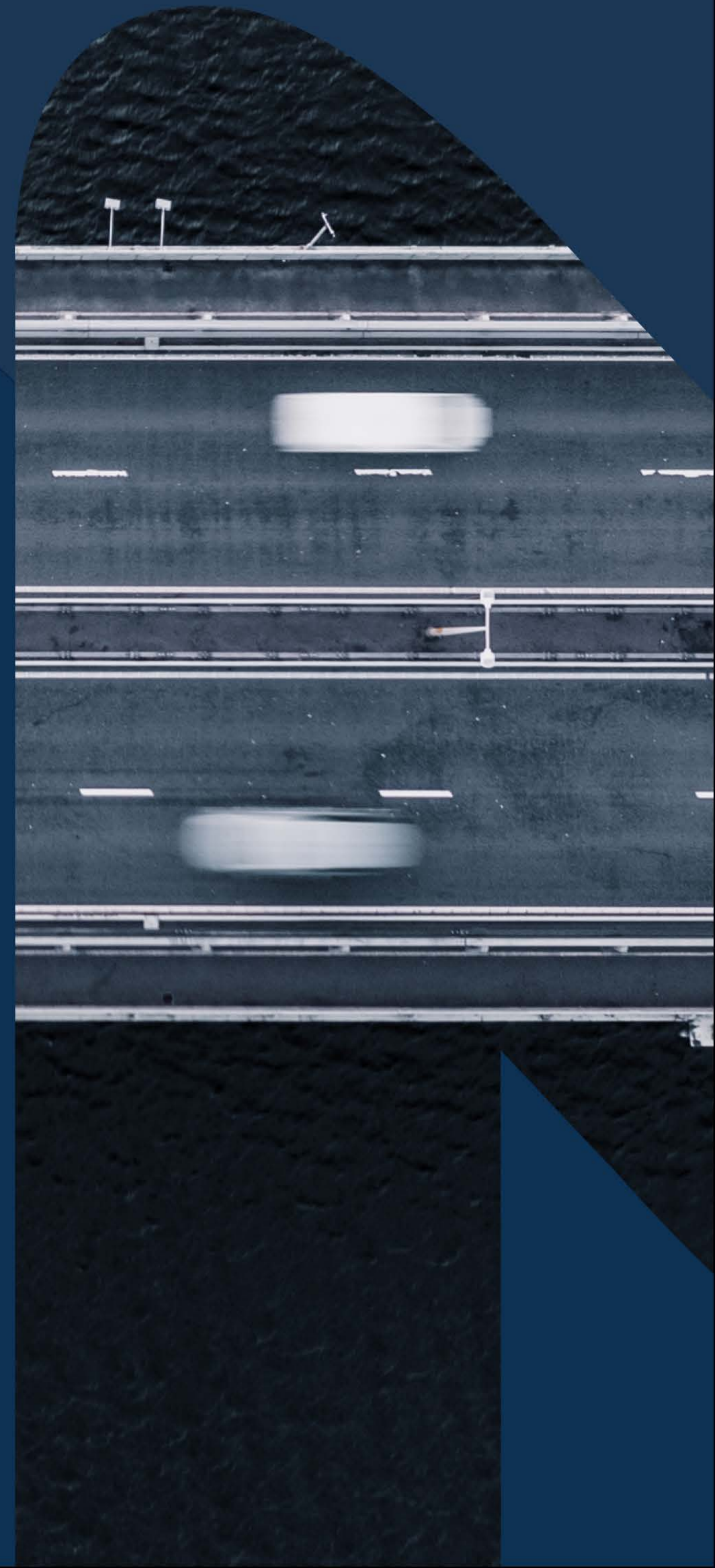
05

Implementing Cloudflare

We implemented Cloudflare to the site for multiple benefits:

- For fast DNS management and response
- For improved security - by utilising Cloudfare's Web Application Firewall to block malicious traffic before it reaches the server.
- For improved site performance and to distribute site assets globally, for faster load and response times.

Technologies used

aws

CLOUDFLARE®

Magento™ 2.0
Open Source eCommerce

NGINX

php

MariaDB

redis

Nublue
Bot Blocker
Technology

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Our incredible results!

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400%

Improvement in hosting architecture efficiency

We improved performance with caching solutions, scalable server architecture, tailored RDS database solution and collaborative work to refine resource utilisation.

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30%

Additional time for the dev team

We resolved legacy hosting and infrastructure issues, to allow the client to refocus their attention on growth and development.

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1hr.

Support responses as standard

As part of our comprehensive support contract with The Driver Handbook we provide support responses within 1hr for all queries, ensuring they have the support they require as a rapidly developing business.

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98%

Of malicious bots blocked

We secured the site with a robust suite of online protection technologies (including the Nublue Bot Blocker), protecting The Driver Handbooks infrastructure and optimising the delivery of legitimate traffic.

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Don't just take our word for it...

"The Driver Handbook has ambitious plans for growth. Having been encumbered by a previous hosting set up, it was critical for us to quickly find the right hosting partner for our in-house development team."

Karen - Operations Director - The Driver Handbook

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Let's Talk

Discuss your needs with an expert - Call 0800 033 7074

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