

Solution strengthens microscopy research for genomics leader

What was the challenge?

- Extra storage needed for a cutting-edge scientific platform that had to be scaled easily
- Speed of deployment was key to being able to support important new research contracts
- The contract needed to be commercially astute and help the not-for-profit Institute as it worked towards an enterprise-grade IT strategy

"The Wellcome Sanger Institute is a unique organisation with a leading role in the scientific community. CAE treated us accordingly. They took time to listen, tailored their approach and worked collaboratively with us to deliver the best outcome."

**Gary Ward, Head of ICT Services,
Wellcome Sanger Institute**



THE POINT

The Wellcome Sanger Institute is one of the world's premier centres of research into the role of genomics and genetics in health and disease. It employs around 1550 staff and has a vast datacentre at its campus at Hinxton, near Cambridge.

Much of its research is in collaboration with other organisations, leading to scientific progress and transformative healthcare in the fields of cancer, parasites and cellular genetics.

A new opportunity arose for the organisation to push the boundaries in electron microscopy and individual cell imaging.

However, this required a significant increase in storage. This had to be delivered quickly and cost-effectively, so the Institute could deliver on important projects and scale its new platform easily over time.

THE OUTCOMES

- Enterprise-grade, scalable storage was expertly designed and delivered swiftly.
- Storage supports new microscopy platform and exciting research projects with collaboration partners.
- Commercially strong contract, taking advantage of discounts and consistent with corporate IT strategy — achieving a cloud-equivalent price point.
- Live transition and seamless integration with legacy environment.
- End-to-end project management with zero footprint, including removal of all waste for recycling.

SOLUTIONS

- Dell Isilon Generation 6 storage — A2000 and H5600 nodes, offering 2 PB, fully scalable to 10 PB, with capacity to go beyond on demand.

SERVICES

- Consultative workshops
- Design, implementation and project management
- First-line technical support, dovetailing with Dell support.

The CAE approach



MEETING A UNIQUE BUSINESS NEED

- The Wellcome Sanger Institute is a unique organisation and the CAE team took time to understand its ethos, aims and IT needs. CAE provided extensive consultation and hosted workshops with the Institute and Dell Technologies.
- With new opportunities arising in electron microscopy and cell imaging, the Dell Isilon Generation 6 solution provided the storage required right away for the Institute to secure important research projects.
- The 2 petabyte storage can scale easily to the expected 10 PB project requirement but has an architecture with capacity to go beyond on demand.
- The solution was provided with A2000 and H5600 nodes. Other types of node can be added in future, giving the Institute extra freedom to deploy other storage-hungry scientific applications. This approach enables the Institute to tier their data to maximise their investment and flexibility.



SWIFT DEPLOYMENT & SEAMLESS INTEGRATION

- The new technology was up and running within two days from unboxing, thanks to CAE's in-house expert team. Remote support was put in place and the new platform went into production.
- The CAE team achieved a live transition and seamless integration with the Institute's legacy environment — with no distraction or disruption for users or customers.



TAKING CARE OF THE DETAIL

- As part of its project management, the CAE team paid attention to detail to help make life easier for Institute staff.
- Additional help ranged from cable colour coding and labelling for easier management, to removing and recycling all waste in a socially responsible way, as part of the professional transition and handover.



STRONG COMMERCIAL FOOTING

- CAE's commercial know-how helped the Institute on its journey towards an enterprise-class IT strategy that's attuned to rising research requirements and spend auditing.
- The CAE team negotiated the contract and managed the process on behalf of the Institute to ensure the best technical solution and a cloud-equivalent price.

WHY CAE?

Our agility allows us to take a strategic approach to understanding, recommending and implementing our clients' needs, delivering a truly customised approach and empowering our customers.

We work to deliver an outcome that exceeds our customers' expectations. We drive cost efficiency down, ensuring we benchmark costs to ensure predictability, transparency, consistency and inclusivity. Our agility is demonstrated through time gains and strategic efficiency, which we measure so we can refine and improve.

For more information, contact hello@wearecae.com

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"CAE had been working with us already for over 12 months, providing desktops, laptops and other end-user devices. They'd proved themselves as dependable and able to deliver on promises — so we were happy to turn to them for this flagship project."

Simon Binley, Project Office and Data Centre Manager,
Wellcome Sanger Institute

