

About KADOKAWA Connected Inc.

KADOKAWA Connected Inc. was established in April 2019 and is a leader in Digital Transformation (DX) providing advisory, infrastructure and operational services to the broader KADOKAWA group. The company has a large number of high value digital assets including the niconico platform that provides one of the largest video community services in Japan.

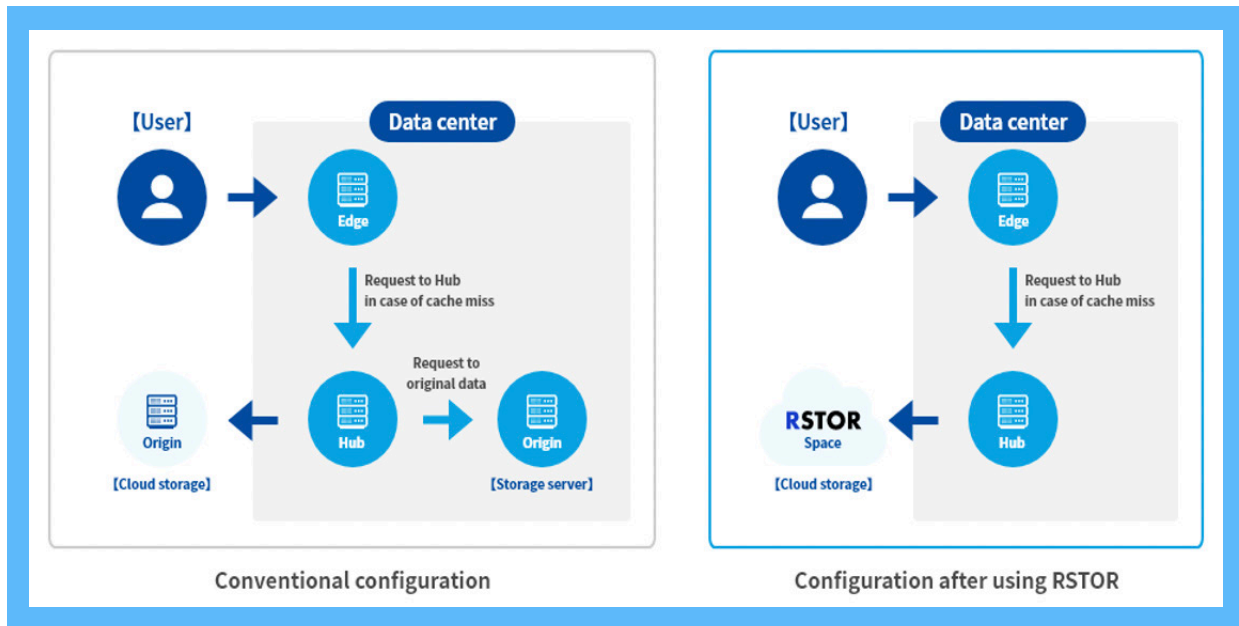
Background and Summary

In mid-2020, KADOKAWA Connected began to look for alternatives for its storage and backup due to the limitations of its previous on-premises object storage solution. After initial testing, KADOKAWA Connected realized that RSTOR, with its high-performance storage platform, local Japanese data center infrastructure, and attractive cost structure, was an ideal partner. KADOKAWA Connected's primary goal was to improve its end customer experience which relies heavily on excellent data management. The niconico service needs to handle hundreds of millions of objects daily of a variety of sizes including large image files.

Challenges

KADOKAWA Connected Inc. faced a number of challenges in their business:

1. The previous cloud storage service and other solutions that were evaluated were mainly for archiving. They didn't match the use case for the niconico service, which requires high performance Reads and Writes especially for small sized data.
2. The legacy on-premise solution had reached its capacity and failed when the number of objects exceeded 100 million. KADOKAWA Connected also experienced systems errors issues when large amounts of object deletions were necessary. KADOKAWA Connected was also plagued with an increasing incidence of hardware failures.
3. The previous cloud storage service charged not only for the storage capacity but also for data transfer making the charges expensive and unpredictable.
4. The on-premise system was becoming expensive and hard to manage. It required 5 days of routine maintenance every other month to maintain performance.



The Solution

1. KADOKAWA Connected tested the RSTOR solution to solve its various challenges. They tested the IOPS performance, and the bandwidth for Read and Write data for various object sizes.
2. KADOKAWA Connected transferred hundreds of terabytes to RSTOR Space which charges only for data at rest, has no egress or ingress fees or fees for APIs. In KADOKAWA Connected's testing RSTOR performed outstandingly across any type of storage object, at any size.
3. KADOKAWA Connected took advantage of RSTOR's extensive and secure data facilities in the Japan Region using the Tokyo and Osaka Nodes, meaning they could relinquish management and troubleshooting of their on- premise server infrastructure, taking the pressure off of human resources and creating large cost savings. RSTOR'S servers were able to handle millions of storage objects and handle large deletion events without issue.

The Result

- Cost savings –
 - ◆ KADOKAWA Connected estimates it was able to save nearly 90% of the cost compared to its current on-premise object storage system
 - ◆ KADOKAWA Connected was able to hand over the storage work and save itself the 5-man days every other month in maintenance.
- Better file handling – RSTOR handles any type of file size. KADOKAWA Connected only pays for what it uses, and without charges for egress can now predict future costs and budgets.
- Better performance – During testing dramatic performance improvements were recorded.