Quick service restaurants are experiencing a surge in post-COVID innovation as customer buying behaviors have changed. Today, customers not only expect high food quality, but demand a personalized experience with touchless ordering and smart drive-thrus with pick-up times measured in seconds. Consequently, a new type of in-restaurant infrastructure is required to support all of these new applications without costing more than the restaurant is able to afford.

Lenovo and Intel partnered with Sunlight.io to deliver a solution that consolidates restaurant infrastructure so it can run existing and new applications, whether in VMs or containers, on a highly available and fault tolerance platform. This solution reduces the hardware complexity in each restaurant and delivers centralized management and deployment infrastructure to all locations. This ultimately reduces costs and increases the speed of innovation.

Fast-track your restaurant chain’s digital transformation and enable analytics and AI with an efficient, zero-touch economic infrastructure - the Sunlight Edge.

**Challenge**

Quick service restaurants are experiencing a surge in post-COVID innovation as customer buying behaviors have changed. Today, customers not only expect high food quality, but demand a personalized experience with touchless ordering and smart drive-thrus with pick-up times measured in seconds. Consequently, a new type of in-restaurant infrastructure is required to support all of these new applications without costing more than the restaurant is able to afford.

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**Solution**

This solution uses Lenovo ThinkEdge and ThinkSystem servers and Intel CPUs combined with the Sunlight.io Edge Hyper Converged Infrastructure to provide a platform that accelerates the digital transformation of the restaurant. This enables a simple deployment of more applications such as multichannel ordering, video analytics. AI-based applications can massively speed up ordering and fulfillment processes both inside the restaurants and at the drive-through and curb-side pick-up points.

**Solution Highlights**

- **Support a mix of applications**
  
  Deploy, run, and manage all of your applications through the Sunlight marketplace, whether legacy VM-based, Kubernetes or container based.

- **Continuous operations**
  
  Intermittent WAN connections can cause business interruption. Sunlight offers continuous business operations (even when WAN fails) with high availability, data protection and disconnected running.
**Central management**
Sunlight gives you all the infrastructure services you need in one simple bundle that can be installed in less than ten minutes and managed remotely. Problems can be fixed quickly without requiring a truck roll.

**Fit anywhere**
Restaurants have limited space, power and cooling. Lenovo ThinkEdge and ThinkSystem servers are small, rugged and work in the smallest possible physical footprint.

**Easy consolidation**
Consolidate your in-restaurant infrastructure from 10-20 discrete systems down to a single highly reliable and centrally remotely manageable, low cost system that runs all your applications.

**Standardization**
When a new restaurant is commissioned, push out complete preconfigured hardware and software IT builds with ease, reducing time to market by 70%.

**Increase innovation**
Deploying new applications without incurring extra hardware costs is simple with Sunlight – just create a recipe in the Sunlight Application Marketplace and deploy on-demand onto your shared cluster in any location.

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**Validated Architecture**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Servers</th>
<th>CPU</th>
<th>Software</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lenovo ThinkEdge SE50</td>
<td>Intel Core™ i5-1145GRE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenovo ThinkEdge SE50</td>
<td>4-core Intel i7-8665UE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenovo ThinkSystem SE350</td>
<td>Intel Xeon D-2100, upto 16 cores</td>
<td>Sunlight.io Edge Hyper Converged Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenovo ThinkEdge SE450</td>
<td>Up to 36-core Intel Xeon Platinum</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Why Lenovo

Lenovo AI-ready infrastructure and expertise span the data center to the cloud, client, and edge. Lenovo partners with industry leaders like Intel to ensure the best possible performance for AI in the field or data center. Lenovo offers proven, ready-to-deploy infrastructure solutions optimized for industry-leading independent software vendors (ISVs) and designed for any size or scale. With worldwide Lenovo AI Centers of Innovation and Excellence, Lenovo extends AI expertise to our partners and customers. Lastly, Lenovo supports the most significant AI software vendors through the Lenovo AI Innovators program, ensuring the best AI software runs seamlessly on Lenovo infrastructure. To find out more visit www.lenovo.com.

Intel® Xeon® Scalable Processor

With consistent, predictable performance, Intel® Xeon® Scalable processors give you fast, reliable processing across each of your AI environments. Intel's continued innovation brings to the cloud new integrated features, such as Intel® Deep Learning Boost (Intel® DL Boost) to accelerate performance for artificial intelligence workloads and reduce the need for custom accelerators like GPUs.

For More Information

To learn more about this solution, contact your Lenovo Business Partner.