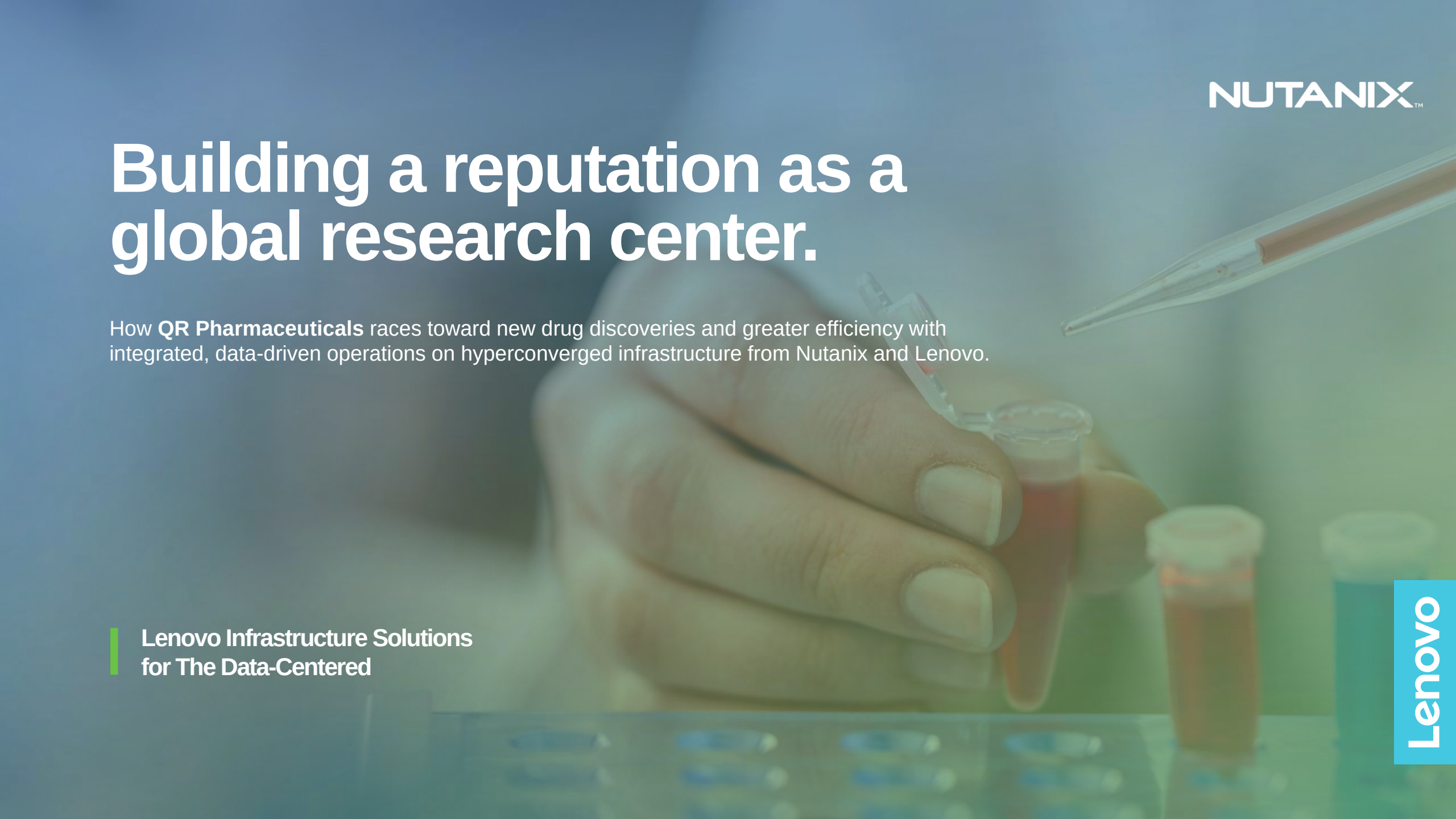


NUTANIX

Building a reputation as a global research center.

How **QR Pharmaceuticals** races toward new drug discoveries and greater efficiency with integrated, data-driven operations on hyperconverged infrastructure from Nutanix and Lenovo.

Lenovo Infrastructure Solutions for The Data-Centered

Lenovo

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Background

Wuhan Qirui Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (hereafter referred to as QR Pharmaceuticals) is based at the Miaoshan Medical Park, Donghu Development Zone in Wuhan, China, and is part of the Wuhan Qirui Technology Development Co., Ltd. Group.

QR Pharmaceuticals has led innovative research projects on cerebrovascular, digestive, and respiratory diseases, and fungal infections in accordance with international standards. The company has undertaken research as part of the National Key New Drug Creation Program—a drug development program sponsored by China's Ministry of Science and Technology. QR Pharmaceuticals has also conducted more than 40 research projects for the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

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Challenge

The global pharmaceuticals industry is changing fast. More than ever, enterprises depend on data to help them discover, develop, certify, and manufacture new drugs. As a result, the ability to store, process, and protect data securely and cost-effectively has become a key differentiator.

The Wuhan Qirui Technology Development Co., Ltd. Group is made up of six companies, including two research and development companies, three pharmaceutical production companies, and one pharmaceutical sales and distribution company. Each company and department had their own business systems and each ran its own separate infrastructure platforms. Siloed workflows and data made it difficult to steer responsive, timely decisions at the group level.

As well as making it hard for senior leaders to gain a clear view of operations, the previous approach also presented significant challenges for the IT function. With more than 50 different software solutions deployed on heterogeneous server and storage systems, the company's lean IT team dedicated significant amounts of human resources to manual management and maintenance tasks—reducing the time available to develop analytics capabilities to support the development, production, and sale of new drugs.

To sharpen its competitive edge, QR Pharmaceuticals embarked on a far-reaching digital transformation initiative. As the first step on its transformation journey, the company decided to break down the siloes by replacing its legacy hardware infrastructure with a single, integrated IT platform.

“We aim to deliver leading-edge digital capabilities that will empower QR Pharmaceuticals to innovate and grow. To achieve this goal while keeping our IT headcount flat, we decided to move from an aging, heterogeneous IT infrastructure to a modern, single-vendor solution.”

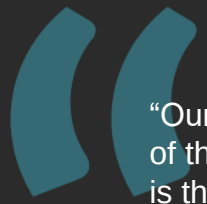
Gao Yang
Director of Information Department, QR Pharmaceuticals



Why Lenovo? High-performance with maximum security.

To kick-start its transformation, QR Pharmaceuticals replaced its traditional three-tier IT environment with an advanced hyperconverged infrastructure from Lenovo and Nutanix. Powered by three Lenovo ThinkAgile HX3310 appliances and four Lenovo ThinkAgile HX 5000 Series appliances. The new solution includes compute, storage, and networking in a compact, easy-to-manage data center footprint.

Networked with Lenovo RackSwitch G7028 Ethernet switches, QR Pharmaceuticals can now manage all its compute and storage resources as a single, virtual pool using Nutanix Prism and Lenovo XClarity software. The Lenovo and Nutanix infrastructure dramatically reduces management time and effort for the IT team—liberating them to focus on value-added activities.



“Our business runs on data, which means unplanned downtime is simply not an option. One of the key reasons that we selected a hyperconverged infrastructure from Lenovo and Nutanix is that we trust Lenovo ThinkAgile HX 3000 and HX 5000 Series appliances to deliver the highest levels of availability, reliability, and performance for our mission-critical workloads.”

Gao Yang
Director of Information Department, QR Pharmaceuticals

Unifying the business.

Working together with a team from Lenovo, QR Pharmaceuticals deployed its new IT infrastructure, and began configuring and testing its new business systems. Today, the company uses its hyperconverged infrastructure to a new, integrated ERP solution, as well as applications for logistics, services, and pharmaceutical inspections.

Because the hyperconverged platform is designed for scalability from the ground up, adding new compute and storage resources is as simple as plugging in additional nodes. These new resources are seamlessly added to the central pool, and immediately available for new workloads.



“We considered a range of leading infrastructure solutions, but it was Lenovo that really stood out from the pack. In addition to meeting all our technical requirements, the Lenovo team went out of their way to understand our business, and offered us comprehensive local support to help ensure our deployment was a success.”

Gao Yang
Director of Information Department,
QR Pharmaceuticals

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Results

With integrated business workflows running on hyperconverged Lenovo and Nutanix infrastructure, QR Pharmaceuticals is honing its edge in a highly competitive space. Today, the company's senior leaders can access accurate, real-time insights into operations from across the group, empowering them to steer timely, well-informed strategic decisions.

Behind the scenes, QR Pharmaceuticals is also measuring significant improvements in its IT function. Switching from heterogenous systems to a central solution has slashed IT management and maintenance requirements, contributing to lower operational costs while keeping headcount lean. QR Pharmaceuticals now spends 80% less time on routine admin tasks per week. In addition, the company can now provision new virtual environments 400% faster than before, shrinking time-to-market for data-driven services.

As it moves into the next phase of its digital transformation, QR Pharmaceuticals intends to maximize the value of its investment in hyperconverged infrastructure. By harnessing the increased compute performance and low storage latency, the company has seen application performance increase by 200% on average. This enables QR Pharmaceuticals to explore cutting-edge big-data analytics use cases—equipping business users with insights to help accelerate research into new treatments.

- **200% increase in application performance**
- **400% faster to provision virtual environments**
- **80% less time spent on routine admin tasks per week**
- **66% decrease in data center footprint, from three racks to just one**

Data provided by QR Pharmaceuticals.

“By embracing a hyperconverged infrastructure from Lenovo and Nutanix, we’ve demolished the barriers to digital transformation. Looking ahead, we plan to use the platform to build next-generation big-data analytics technologies—empowering QR Pharmaceuticals to develop innovative treatments that benefit the whole world.”

Gao Yang
Director of Information Department, QR Pharmaceuticals

What will you do with Lenovo ThinkAgile HX solutions?

The Data-Centered accelerate drug research with Lenovo smarter infrastructure solutions.

Explore Lenovo ThinkAgile HX Solutions

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