



#### SUCCESS STORY

#### **ABOUT PRICESMART**

PriceSmart's market leadership requires the company's full attention to design and implement scalable and resilient architectures to support its growth goals. PriceSmart turned to Fresche for solutions to modernize its systems and support its ambitious growth plans.

**Industry:** Retail & Membership Clubs

Regions: Central America, Colombia, Caribbean

Revenue: \$4 billion



## **GROWTH SUPPORTED**

Scalable cloud infrastructure enabled seamless growth without disruption.



#### **UPTIME**

Zero-downtime backups and real-time disaster recovery ensured uninterrupted service.

## 2-HOUR **MIGRATION**

Live transition to Power 10 minimized operational impact during the upgrade.

## THE BUSINESS CASE: ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO GROWTH

PriceSmart has ambitious plans to expand its membership base and enhance operations across Central America, Colombia, and the Caribbean.

As the region's largest membership club operator, its success relies on trust, value, and convenience. Members depend on PriceSmart for premium goods, services, and seamless, dependable experiences.

However, growth brings new challenges. Business critical systems, strain under new demands and operational inefficiencies become magnified, and system maintenance becomes less tolerated.

All focus is where it should be—on customer satisfaction. The technology teams are under pressure to keep systems efficient, secure, and ready to support the company's goals. In addition, disaster recovery plans must evolve with the accelerating pace of change to ensure resilience against unexpected disruptions.

To support its ambitious growth, PriceSmart sought scalable and future-proof infrastructure. They partnered with Fresche to modernize infrastructure, enhance resilience, and remove barriers to growth.



We depend on Fresche to operate the beating heart of the company. The AS/400 running our ERP is where we do all of the accounting, financials, inventory management, and other crtiical things. The enhacenment that Fresche has put into this, has allowed us to focus on member satisfaction.

> Wayne Sadin, EVP & CIO Price**Smart**

## THE SOLUTION: **ENABLE RESILIENCE AND UNLOCK SCALABILITY**

Fresche tackled PriceSmart's challenges with a deep understanding of their unique needs and created solutions that prioritized reliability and scalability, with minimal disruption.

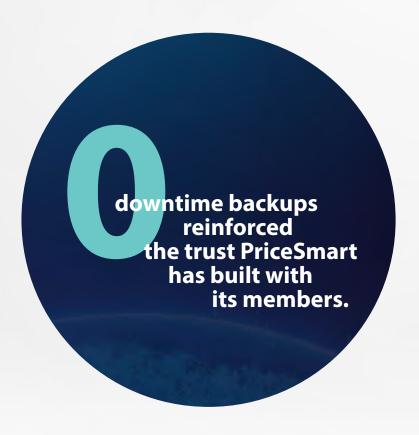
The transformation began with the migration of PriceSmart's IBM i infrastructure to Fresche's secure cloud in a Tier 4 data center. This step eliminated the constraints of the on-premises system and provided the resilience and flexibility required to serve customers with confidence.

To strengthen defenses and improve recovery times, Fresche consolidated disaster recovery processes and implemented real-time replication to a second secure data center. These measures improved RPO and RTO times to enable swift restoration of critical systems and created a solid foundation for modernization.

To support its 15-18% annual growth, PriceSmart sought a consumption model that matched those expectations. Fresche executed a live migration to **Power 10 and V7R5**. Despite the scale of this migration, this transition required only two hours of downtime and turned what could have been a major disruption into a seamless change for employees and customers alike.

New backup tools and processes were implemented to provide a seamless experience with zero downtime. This advancement strengthened customer trust and ensured uninterrupted service across global time zones. Fresche also implemented targeted application remediation to address bottlenecks on critical LPARs and enhance overall resilience.

To lighten the load on PriceSmart's internal IT team, Fresche assumed responsibility for day-today infrastructure management. This allowed internal resources, with decades of business knowledge, to focus on strategic initiatives and explore new opportunities for innovation.



# THE BUSINESS BENEFITS: FROM VULNERABLE TO RESILIENT

With Fresche, PriceSmart achieved a complete operational overhaul. Improvements in disaster recovery allowed the rapid restoration of production systems, reduced downtime, and maintained operational stability.

With cloud, PriceSmart gained the scalability to support their operations. Application performance tuning and architectural changes upgrades accelerated performance and enabled the company to handle peak demands efficiently.

With Fresche's advancements, members now experience a seamless service, even during

peak operational periods, which strengthens their trust in PriceSmart's ability to deliver consistent value.

Meanwhile, the move to Power 10 technology positioned the business for consistent growth, to meet an impressive **annual increase of 15–18%.** By working collaboratively with Fresche, PriceSmart's IT team could redirect its efforts toward core business goals and focus on innovative projects that contribute to the company's success.

#### THE NEXT CHAPTER FOR



The next chapter for PriceSmart focuses on unlocking the potential of its upgraded infrastructure to deliver more value through data-driven insights and innovation.

The enhanced platform will enable PriceSmart to provide critical data to advanced analytics engines. It will ensure timely, secure, and precise decisions across the organization. These capabilities will help the business identify trends, anticipate member needs, and improve operations with accuracy.

Beyond analytics, the infrastructure will act as a foundation for Al initiatives. As PriceSmart adopts Al applications, the platform will deliver data correlations and insights that create tangible business value. This effort will improve customer experiences, advance operational efficiency, and refine strategies to maintain a competitive edge.

For PriceSmart, the partnership with Fresche paved the way for sustainable growth and innovation. PriceSmart now operates with increased confidence, agility, and the ability to scale seamlessly.

## Discover

how tailored solutions like PriceSmart's can transform your operations—

> schedule a consultation today



#### **About Fresche**

Pioneers in IT modernization, Fresche manages, modernizes, and maximizes the value of IBM i business-critical systems. Our winning IP and proven solutions in Modernization, Cloud, Software and Application Services, and Strategy have earned the trust of global leaders from 2500+ companies.

Transform your IT challenges into future growth and innovation with Fresche Solutions.

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