Globant partnered with Gunpowder and Google to develop a solution that would enable automated provisioning and simplified management of virtual VFX facilities along with a billing data backend, reporting and APIs to enable usage-based chargeback.

The challenge
Gunpowder provides a full-stack solution for media and entertainment business companies. The goal is to provide geo-dispersed digital artists with state-of-the-art collaboration and performance-grade machinery to achieve their desired compilations. From digital animation to full rendering farms, Gunpowder needs an automated and multi-tenant distributed way to achieve its goals.

The solution
Globant developed the automation to deploy Gunpowder's virtual facilities on Compute Engine, a self-service management application (Ignite) that simplifies the management of the underlying components and a billing backend with Big Query, Data Studio and Cloud Run. Third-party tools running on GKE and Cloud Build were integrated to enable the workstation's configuration and OS image management.

The results
Deploying the core of a new virtual VFX facility takes only a few minutes now. Ignite allows end users to manage their environment without requiring specific knowledge of the multiple components of the solution. Ignite is now published in the Google Cloud Marketplace and is getting billing data from our backend API. At the time of this writing, there were over 600 workstations deployed.

Globant has enabled Gunpowder as a business to scale into vertices we never thought possible. What used to take us weeks to accomplish is now done in minutes. We are thoroughly impressed with Globant and their vast team of knowledge that they can call on to accomplish what's previously been impossible.

Tom Taylor, Founder, Gunpowder