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Government Research Company Migrates FedRAMP Compliant Big Data Analytics Applications to AWS

In 2016, the research company began working on a large project that required high-performance analytics computing to process a very large dataset. The infrastructure needed to be FedRAMP compliant. Although the company maintains its own FedRAMP-compliant datacenters, the project had a tight deadline and their usual 3- month timeline for purchasing, configuring, and testing custom hardware was not an option.

The company chose Amazon Web Services (AWS) due to AWS's extensive experience working with government organizations and vendors and its robust big data offerings. However, their staff lacked expertise on the AWS platform and the project's deadline was fast approaching, so they could not build their AWS environment alone. The research company's leadership chose Logicworks to design, deploy, manage, and optimize their AWS cloud. Logicworks architected the solution to meet FedRAMP standards by applying its mature, well-tested framework for continuous compliance. As a result of this success, the company plans to migrate more workloads to AWS.

Challenges

- Aggressive deadline; less than 60 days to production
- Big data analytics applications require custom configurations and high-performance compute and storage
- FedRAMP compliance requirement
- Internal systems teams lack expertise on the AWS platform

Solution

- **Scalable Compute, Low Cost of Change:** The AWS cloud allows the research company to onboard new projects rapidly and cost-effectively, without the burden of purchasing and configuring hardware for their own datacenter.
- **Big Data in AWS**: No other cloud provider offers more robust data processing tools than AWS. Logicworks helps the company make the best use of AWS for their big data analytics applications.
- **Continuous Compliance**: The AWS East and West regions are certified for FISMA /FedRAMP ATO. Logicworks helps the research company maintain continuous compliance in AWS through advanced tooling and automation.

- **Certified Expertise:** Skilled cloud engineering talent with compliance experience is extremely difficult to find. Instead, the company could rely on Logicworks' certified AWS expertise and 23+ years of experience servicing healthcare and governmental agencies, reducing the risk of migration and management.
- **Repeatable Results**: Since Logicworks built the research company's AWS environment using AWS CloudFormation, Puppet, and other infrastructure as code tools, their entire environment can be duplicated or easily modified and rebuilt for another project. This significantly reduces the cost of future project onboarding.

Results

As a result of choosing Logicworks and AWS, the research company successfully launched their FedRAMPcompliant analytics project on AWS in under 60 days. The speed and success of this project demonstrates the value of outsourcing physical datacenter compliance to AWS and then layering on an experienced AWS management partner for architecture, monitoring, and maintenance. The project also highlights the benefits of the continuous compliance model, where configuration management and AWS native tools enforce server and OS configurations, alerting Logicworks' 24x7x365 NOC or automatically correcting misconfigured resources. Due to the success of the project, the research company now plans to gradually shut down their on-premise datacenter and go all-in on AWS.

About Logicworks

Logicworks, the leader in compliant cloud solutions, provides end-to-end cloud strategy, operations, security services to clients in the finance, healthcare, and SaaS industries. Logicworks is an AWS Premier Consulting Partner and Microsoft Gold Certified Partner, and one of the only cloud partners in the world to have achieved HIPAA, HITRUST CSF, PCI-DSS Level 1, SOC1, and SOC2 certification. Our customers include MassMutual, Pitney Bowes, Orion Health, and other top companies that demand the highest standards of agility and governance.

To learn more about Logicworks Managed AWS Services, contact us at **(212) 625-5454** or visit us online at **www.logicworks.com**