

Department of Homeland Security

ENTERPRISE WORKLOAD MIGRATION TO AWS

The Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) expands services, increases security, and improves operational agility.

Background

Information sharing is the centerpiece of DHS's mission, and HSIN is integral to supporting public safety. HSIN allows mission operators and first responders to share Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) information between federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, international, and private sector partners for emergency response, disaster relief, and major events. To support emerging needs of first responders and improve the value of information sharing, DHS needed to take advantage of the speed and flexibility of the cloud.

Because managing SBU requires a set of high security and process standards to meet compliance objectives, DHS turned to Easy Dynamics to pioneer a FISMA high workload in Amazon Web Services (AWS) – a milestone that had not been accomplished by the department. Our managers and engineers leveraged a mature Agile and DevSecOps practice to support the task and quickly engage with the department.

The Challenges

- The department did not have a process to accredit FISMA High workloads in a public cloud
- Looming data center closures and increased costs were making it cost prohibitive to remain in the data center
- Data center enhancements were not keeping up with stakeholder demand
- HSIN contains stateless and real-time rich media (desktop sharing and video conferencing), making network latency objectives a challenge while maintaining Trusted Internet Connection (TIC) compliance

Our Solution

To support the volume of activity, we tailored Atlassian to manage multiple simultaneous projects to track engineering, migration, and compliance activities. The team conducted an Analysis of Alternatives for over a dozen products, helped identify cloud-ready software that can reside on IaaS, and selectively introduced FedRAMP's high PaaS services. A core virtual private cloud (VPC) was built to secure, orchestrate, and automate change to multiple VPCs used to manage mission applications delivering Information Sharing services to stakeholders. A network VPC was designed to route traffic through a Secure Cloud Interconnect to communicate with DHS data centers and achieve TIC compliance.

The Measurable Benefits

Improved Security.

Security controls are automated to achieve predictable configuration, and changes to controls are detected and resolved autonomously.

Improved Service Performance.

Delivered faster time to functionality and increased releases by 60% within first 12 months.

The time to make environmental changes dropped by 75%.

Enabled rapid development of new capabilities and services.

Reduced Costs.

Automation enabled scaling at a fraction of the cost of data center, and Total Cost of Owner decreased by 30%.

Efficiency. Resiliency. Security.

Easy Dynamics has been delivering innovative technology solutions to the federal government since 2006, advancing its varied missions with maximum efficiency and value. We shine the bright light of cybersecurity on everything we do, illuminating the critical importance of operational security and risk mitigation across all of our core services.

Visit easydynamics.com for more information.

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