

Scaling SaaS Company Modernizing and Migrating to AWS

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THE COMPANY

A growing 20-year-old company that pioneered building management software as a service (SaaS) to help large property management firms and homeowner associations effectively run their properties.



SITUATION

Recently acquired by a private equity firm, this SaaS provider's legacy application was hosted in a data center on hardware that did not have the capability to scale horizontally. This presented a challenge when exploring opportunities to scale into other regions of the world. Would they have to build data centers around the world to comply with regional data sovereignty laws? The private equity firm's other portfolio companies, which had gone all-in with the cloud, yielded much larger multiples. They wanted to pursue an application modernization and migration initiative but did not know where to begin.

SOLUTION

Foghorn was engaged to consult on the best path forward. After a robust cloud platform analysis and scoring study, AWS (with its global reach and depth and breadth of cloud technologies) was selected as their cloud partner. As a Premier Tier Partner, Foghorn is part of AWS' Migration Acceleration Program, and helped secure significant funding from AWS to offset the modernization and migration costs.

Modernize and Migration

- › During Phase 1 of the engagement, 4 of Foghorn's architects help set the architecture and strategy
- › During Phase 2 of the engagement, 15 of Foghorn's cloud engineers were assigned to the project. Working alongside Lab Zero, Foghorn brought a significant amount of infrastructure and application architecture expertise. A microservices-based architecture was designed, and a completely new application code base was built.
- › With a horizontally scaling application built, this SaaS enterprise's infrastructure now had all the DevOps tooling needed to enable nearshore developers to develop code, push the code to AWS, and deploy microservices to the container.

RESULTS

With an ongoing FogOps Team engagement this customer's project will continue to evolve over the next year as more workloads are migrated, and 100% of the data center-hosted assets are moved to AWS. Already, powerful results have been achieved:

- › The customer's legacy application will be able to scale globally without the need to build data centers in different regions. With AWS's global availability zones, data sovereignty rules will be met, and latency will be minimized.

- › With the first phases of the customer's application and database modernization vision realized, the customer is closer to their vision of a horizontally scaling application with meta and application syndication layers. They are on the path of having an intelligent directory layer that can route users to the correct infrastructure from a single application homepage.

- › With Foghorn assisting with their application design, Microsoft SQL and F5 enterprise licenses will be able to expire, realizing significant cost savings.

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