

CASE STUDY

LIONSGATE

Global entertainment company puts spotlight on cloud hosting

ORGANIZATION:

Lionsgate is a leading global entertainment company with a strong and diversified presence in motion picture production and distribution, television programming and syndication, home entertainment, family entertainment, digital distribution and new channel platforms.

CHALLENGE:

Finding the time to manage new collaborative infrastructure without being burdened by AWS or SharePoint farm monitoring or troubleshooting tasks

SOLUTION:

Datapipe Managed Cloud for AWS

DATAPIPE

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LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

THE CHALLENGE

Lionsgate is a leading global entertainment company with a strong and diversified presence in motion picture production and distribution, television programming and syndication, home entertainment, family entertainment, digital distribution and new channel platforms. The \$2 billion global studio manages one of the most prestigious entertainment libraries with over 15,000 titles, a complete array of businesses, and a feature film slate of approximately 15 releases each year.

Given the studio's diversified portfolio and global reach, it relies on highly-effective collaboration and approval workflows across teams, departments and geographies. The company's IT division regularly partners with business units to better leverage technologies, in order to facilitate and streamline the workflow processes. "During the past 10 years, we've grown into one of the world's top global entertainment studios," said Jeremy Fuchs, Vice President, Financial and BI Systems, Lionsgate. "Much of what we do every day requires cross-team collaboration, shared documents, and the ability to capture and route vital information through approval workflows - all on a global scale."

With an emphasis on collaboration, Lionsgate began testing new methods of sharing information across divisions, offices and regions. Of particular concern was the time required to manage this new collaborative infrastructure. Fuchs did not want his team to be burdened with AWS or SharePoint farm monitoring or troubleshooting tasks when their time could be better spent delivering more tangible value to the business.



THE SOLUTION

Lionsgate chose to leverage Microsoft SharePoint 2010 with a Virtual Private Cloud on Amazon Web Services (AWS). SharePoint was selected for its robust framework for collaboration and communication features and the AWS VPC solution creates a secure environment in the cloud – with the flexibility and scalability necessary for management with minimal impact on the on-premises data center.

Continued Fuchs: “The thing about AWS is it’s so easy to use, highly scalable, and reliable. The solution lets us easily build servers and keep them in stopped state, waiting to be booted up only if necessary. We’re only charged for the time that the servers are up-and-running. This enables us to have one or more development environments in play at the same time depending on our needs.”

Lionsgate then turned to Datapipe for the managed services necessary to monitor and optimize the SharePoint environment on AWS. The company’s Managed AWS service is specifically designed to simplify management and strengthen financial controls – all with a single window into the security, technology, and billing over the entire enterprise cloud.

Datapipe’s services allow customers to leverage the flexibility, scalability, and power of AWS – all while being tailored and scaled to meet their specific business needs. Of particular importance for SharePoint cloud hosting is Datapipe’s combined knowledge of AWS and SharePoint farm management.

Said Fuchs, “Setting Datapipe apart is a well rounded skill set covering both the cloud and the SharePoint application. As an AWS Premier Consulting Partner with a 24x7x365 support model Datapipe is a great fit for our needs.”

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

RESULTS & BENEFITS

- Optimized uptime while reducing the burden that would have been placed on Lionsgate's technical support staff
- Offloaded the burden of backups, system monitoring, troubleshooting and patching
- 100 percent customizable
- Growing ecosystem of solutions and services

In partnering with AWS and Datapipe, Lionsgate has significantly decreased their implementation times, eliminating steps associated with purchasing and installing additional servers and storage. The company can fully optimize uptime and reduce any new burden placed on their internal IT staff. The entertainment group is also free from the burdens of managing backups and 24/7/365 system monitoring.

"Our positive experience has us looking for new ways to leverage the AWS cloud and our relationship with Datapipe. Both AWS and Datapipe will continue to be an integral part of our IT roadmap moving forward," concluded Fuchs.

DATAPIPE

A next generation MSP, Datapipe is recognized as the pioneer of managed services for public cloud platforms. Datapipe has unique expertise in architecting, migrating, managing and securing public cloud, private cloud, hybrid IT and traditional IT around the globe. The world's most trusted brands partner with Datapipe to optimize mission-critical and day-to-day enterprise IT operations, enabling them to transform, innovate, and scale. Backed by a global team of experienced professionals and world-class interconnected data centers, Datapipe provides comprehensive cloud, compliance, security, governance, automation and DevOps solutions. Gartner named Datapipe a leader in the Magic Quadrant for Cloud-Enabled Managed Hosting.



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