Neat Uses Enhanced Visibility to Improve AWS Resource Efficiency

Industry
IT services

Headquarters location
Hong Kong

Employees
50–200

VMware footprint
CloudHealth®

Key features
Granular cost visibility
Rightsizing recommendations

Cloud
AWS

Key benefits
• Increased efficiency – CloudHealth helped Neat increase performance efficiency by more than 50 percent.

• Strategic planning – Granular visibility allows Neat to zero in on usage and determine where efforts should be focused.

• Financial accountability – Neat can now deeply analyze its AWS billing record and hold lines of business accountable.

Neat is the leading provider of smart organization systems for small businesses. The company's unique combination of cloud, mobile and desktop software, in conjunction with its hardware scanning solutions, allows users to transform important documents into usable digital information. Neat customers are able to organize, access and share both paper and digital documents, simplifying everyday tasks and facilitating information workflows. As the company started migrating its architecture to the cloud, Neat was in need of a better way to optimize its Amazon Web Services (AWS) architecture.

Neat's challenges with cloud

In moving its architecture to the cloud, Neat faced two primary challenges:

• The ability to efficiently manage spend – AWS resources were readily available to developers and the DevOps team, allowing them to spin up resources on demand. Neat needed a way to monitor and control resource utilization to prevent resources from sprawling out of control.

• The ability to delineate the financial impact of what Neat was doing in the cloud – Neat needed to ensure it was providing the right amount of production resources and services for customers, while also being able to separate costs taken on internally for development and QA.

Neat did not have a solid understanding of which machine sizes were the correct fit for AWS processes and lacked the level of visibility required to make better decisions with regard to its AWS architecture—all issues that were too tedious to handle manually.

> "My favorite thing about CloudHealth is the level of visibility it gives us into our architecture that we previously didn't have. The platform helps us paint the big picture, which can become very tedious to do manually."
>
> Patrick Curley, Chief Product Officer, Neat

CloudHealth by vmware®

Finding a solution

After evaluating different options, Neat chose CloudHealth to incorporate a policy-driven approach and focus on cloud governance. CloudHealth gives Neat the ability to manage its entire cloud environment from a single console, and has enabled the company to simplify the process of managing its cloud infrastructure while at the same time reducing costs and proactively managing performance.

Some key CloudHealth functionality that helps Neat includes rightsizing reports with recommendations, trended usage analysis by business groups, and cost visibility at a granular level that is tied to its AWS detailed billing record. The information Neat has at the ready through the CloudHealth platform has simplified decision-making efforts.

The results

CloudHealth has given Neat a powerful level of visibility into its AWS architecture, allowing the company to benefit from a greater view of resource utilization and a level of insight that has enabled the company to increase performance efficiency by more than 50 percent. The company has been able to benefit from the information necessary to support decision-making efforts related to feature developments and where to focus on cost optimization.

With CloudHealth, Neat is now able to zero in on usage, benefit from the right level of visibility, and determine where efforts should be focused.

Learn how CloudHealth can transform the way your organization operates in the cloud.