The Computerworld Honors Program

Honoring those who use Information Technology to benefit society

Final Copy of Case Study

YEAR:
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STATUS:
Laureate

Organization name:
Terremark, A Verizon Company

Organization URL:
www.terremark.com

Project Name:
Enterprise Cloud Federal Edition

What social/humanitarian issue was the project designed to address? What specific metrics did you use to measure the project's success?

This technology has allowed for government mission-critical applications to eliminate downtime due to hardware failure. By government applications becoming more effective in performance and in cost, every American benefits. First, agencies can react faster to social and natural-caused crisis and, secondly, tax-payer dollars are better spent. The main metric used is return on investment. Terremark has been able to save government agencies millions of dollars by implementing and utilizing cloud computing. Specifically, the United States General Services Administration publicly acknowledged saving approximately 80 percent on infrastructure costs for its online applications by transferring from its physical infrastructure to Terremark's Enterprise Cloud.

Please describe the technologies used and how those technologies were deployed in an innovative way. Also, please include any technical or other challenges that were overcome for the successful implementation of the project.

Enterprise Cloud Federal Edition combines the power and flexibility of infrastructure-as-a-service with the expertise, security and compliance that government agencies with mission-critical computing needs demand of their infrastructure. Through this technology, Terremark provides customers with a discrete, dedicated pool of compute resources where they create and manage their own virtual servers. Dynamic Capacity mode is another unique feature that allows customers to automatically deal with unforeseen spikes in usage by enabling "burst move" access to a pool

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of additional resources. Additionally, Terremark provides advanced security options on the cloud, such as intrusion detection, intrusion prevention, log aggregation and security event and information management. This ability to deliver advanced security services in the cloud significantly differentiates it from other public cloud infrastructure.

Please list the specific humanitarian benefits the project has yielded so far.

By leveraging Terremark's Enterprise Cloud, government agencies are able to utilize secure, reliable computing resources for the mission-critical applications. When applied to the classified work of some agencies that are supported by the company's cloud infrastructure, the technology could save the lives of American personnel around the world. Additionally, by providing these agencies with flexible and elastic computing resources, Terremark is able to help reduce the costs associated with hosting applications for federal agencies. These cost savings can then be reallocated to initiatives that develop innovations that enhance the services delivered by the agencies to American citizens.

Please provide the best example of how the project has benefited a specific individual, enterprise or organization. Feel free to include personal quotes from individuals who have directly benefited from the work.

Terremark's Enterprise Cloud: Federal Edition is one of the first infrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS) solutions to be certified for compliance with Department of Defense (DoD) security requirements, as tested and verified by the DoD Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP). Terremark Federal Group and its delivery partner, URS Corporation's information technology business, URS-Apptis, are now certified to host a DoD application on Terremark's IaaS offering. DIACAP certification is an intensive and stringent requirement for all IT systems that operate on a DoD network. During the certification process, Terremark and URS-Apptis worked with the DoD to configure, test and confirm that the Enterprise Cloud complies with the DoD's security requirements and was accredited by an authorized official. The certification for the cloud computing solution offered by Terremark enables the DoD to leverage the efficiencies and scalability that only the cloud can deliver. "With our federal-only cloud platform being among the first shared infrastructure systems to receive DIACAP certification, we have once again proven the leading-edge nature of our secure cloud offerings," said Jamie Dos Santos, CEO of Terremark Federal Group. "This certification is another important proof-point regarding URS-Apptis' expertise and commitment to support government adoption of the cloud in a secure and certified manner," said Randall A. Wotring, President of Federal Services for URS. "Our professional services offerings enable DoD and other government organizations to leverage the value of cloud in support of their mission while maintaining critical information assurance protections."