Alert Logic cuts costs 60% running on Amazon Aurora

Case study

Executive Summary

Alert Logic saved nearly two-thirds of its infrastructure costs and gained improved scalability and functionality by rearchitecting their solutions on AWS. As the last part of its business-wide migration to AWS, Alert Logic is moving business intelligence (BI) and reporting services to Amazon Aurora to take advantage of its serverless scale and cutting-edge capabilities.

The Challenge

The on-demand nature of reporting and BI workloads requires daily or weekly bursts of query processing with long stretches of no activity. Up until now, Alert Logic has run their solutions on PCI-compliant appliances in colocation racks or cages, which has required them to pay for the capacity even when it's not in use. They wanted a serverless platform that would offer them access to the processing capabilities they needed, when they needed them, at whatever scale was required.

The Solution

The team chose to rearchitect their BI and reporting solution to run on Amazon Aurora. This move allowed them to take advantage of the serverless platform's scalability, consumption-based pricing, and seamless integration with other AWS services. Offered as a fully managed service, which includes the automatic addition of innovative new features, Amazon Aurora makes it possible for Alert Logic to achieve production-ready quality in record time and continue to enhance their offering.

" Every AWS service we pick up works; that's been our AWS experience. We've never experienced a barrier that wasn't advertised. **"**

— Paul Fisher
Chief Architect, Alert Logic

60% cost decrease

Improved scalability and functionality achieved by moving to AWS services, including Amazon Aurora.

About Alert Logic

Alert Logic provides businesses of every size award-winning security solutions by seamlessly connecting its security platform with cutting-edge threat intelligence and expert defenders. More than 4,000 organizations rely on Alert Logic to ensure the right level of security and compliance coverage at a lower total cost than point solutions, SIEM tools, or traditional security outsourcing vendors.

" Having Alert Logic as an extension of our security team not only saves time analyzing vast amounts of data but ensures our compliance mandates are met. We can focus on our core business and being safe, knowing we have security experts dealing with the operational side for us. **"**

— Richard Marshall
Head of Platform, Wealth Wizards

Results and Benefits

Alert Logic is moving into the third version of their platform, which coincides with transitioning everything over to AWS. They are taking maximum advantage of the AWS environment by carefully choosing the right solution for individual workloads and rearchitecting those workloads accordingly. The result has been phenomenal cost advantages. As part of the last phase, they've chosen to migrate a portion of their BI and reporting workloads to Amazon Aurora.

Reducing infrastructure demands with serverless scaling

Amazon Aurora's serverless scaling capabilities allow Alert Logic to deliver processing power on demand for BI and reporting requests. "We're confident with Amazon Aurora that it will work the way it's advertised, and the scale is two orders above what we would ever need," says Fisher. "We count on that to be true for all AWS resources, and we count on their support team to be available at the drop of the hat because that has always been our experience."

Reinvesting in value-add IP, not infrastructure

Alert Logic has chosen to rearchitect their solutions as part of their move to Amazon Aurora in order to take advantage of the new features and capabilities offered today, as well as the innovative enhancements planned for the future. According to Fisher, "The functionality of Amazon Aurora is going to expand our reporting capabilities."

Integrating easily with other AWS services

A key reason for choosing Amazon Aurora was that is it part of the AWS ecosystem of services which makes integration seamless. "There's no barrier to dropping Amazon Aurora into our feature set," Paul Fisher explains. "We build on one technology base knowing we can tier the storage later because it's as easy as getting a table and deploying the code."

Rearchitecting and deploying in under two months

Even though Alert Logic has been redesigning their solutions to take advantage of the cloud, the fully managed capabilities offered by Amazon Aurora have helped them accelerate their time to production.

Learn more

Amazon Aurora is a MySQL and PostgreSQL-compatible relational database built for the cloud, that combines the performance and availability of traditional enterprise databases with the simplicity and cost-effectiveness of open source databases. Amazon Aurora is up to five times faster than standard MySQL databases and three times faster than standard PostgreSQL databases. It provides the security, availability, and reliability of commercial databases at 1/10th the cost.

> " It's a very rapid process from "let's do it," to the proof of concept, to getting it done on Amazon Aurora. We have one DBA working on it and another person helping him, and we expect to have a production workload running at scale in under two months. "
>
> — Paul Fisher
>   Chief Architect, Alert Logic