

CASE STUDY

TMX Finance Migrates to AWS and Establishes Cloud Center of Excellence



Challenge

To vacate on-prem data center and migrate workloads to AWS before hardware contracts expired.

Solution

TMX Finance engaged Unisys, their IT outsourcing services provider, to support the migration. Unisys engaged WSM International to bring public cloud migration expertise to ensure on-time completion and reduced risk.

AWS Services Implemented

- EC2
- EDS
- Load Balancing
- Control Tower
- S3 Storage
- Lambda
- RDS
- AWS SFTP
- AWS SSP
- VPC
- Direct Connect
- CloudTrail

Results

- Project completed in December 2019 – on time and on budget
- AWS instances optimized and configured for PCI DSS compliance and cost-effectiveness
- Internal Cloud Center of Excellence established for ongoing governance

TMX Finance is a privately owned financial services firm and one of the nation's largest title-lending companies with over 1,200 retail locations. To modernize their IT infrastructure and restructure costs, TMX Finance decided it was time to shut down their on-premises data center and move to the cloud.

Challenge

TMX operated a data center for its primary business applications and customer-facing workloads. Because hardware contracts were expiring, TMX leadership decided it was time to make the move to AWS. They called on Unisys and WSM for migration planning and migration delivery services.

“We help thousands of people every day to get the cash they need,” said Jerry Horner, Chief Information Officer, TMX Finance. “Unisys is a trusted partner, bringing the right relationships to ensure a secure cloud design and cloud migration. This was one of the best projects that I have ever seen delivered.”

Solution

Time was of the essence as the migration needed to be complete before hardware contracts were renewed. To help them meet the deadline, Unisys called on WSM International, a Connectria company, because of WSM's industry-leading migration experience and because WSM had recently delivered a Cloud Center of Excellence consulting engagement for TMX on Unisys' behalf.



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Company

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“Unisys is a trusted partner, and they could have their choice of partners to work with,” said Tina Wisbiski, WSM’s Project Management Lead for Cloud Migrations. “We’re proud to be a partner they can rely on when they need additional support for their cloud migration projects.”

WSM worked with Unisys and TMX project leads to migrate workloads from more than 140 servers to AWS. “TMX has a very complex network and the project took very detailed planning and orchestration across a number of departments,” said Wisbiski. “In some cases, the client hadn’t documented what was on each server, so we had to spend time, upfront, finding business owners for the different workloads. In addition, we had to coordinate our efforts with the work that Unisys was doing for the client as well.”

Results

Completed in early December of 2019, the migration took four months from start to finish – and was finished before the hardware contracts expired. AWS VPCs were built from the ground up to comply with PCI DSS and cost-optimized through the use of AWS cloud services such as RDS and EC2.

To help the organization manage its cloud infrastructure, WSM also helped TMX create a Cloud Center of Excellence (CCOE). This internal, cross-functional team will be responsible for the ongoing management of the cloud strategy, governance, and adoption.

About the Client

The TMX Finance Family of Companies provides consumer credit products under the TitleMax®, TitleBucks®, and InstaLoan® brands. Since 1998, we have provided access to credit for consumers who are underserved by traditional lenders. Many of our customers have nowhere else to turn when they suffer short-term financial setbacks like medical emergencies or home repairs, so it is our mission to remain a reliable source of credit and offer customers hope and opportunity.



Why Choose WSM & Connectria?

A leader in migration and cloud adoption, WSM delivers solutions designed to meet your needs for greater business agility, better efficiencies, and increased return on investment.

Connectria provides managed cloud, managed services, and compliant cloud security solutions to more than 1,000 global customers delivering technology-agnostic solutions consistently, with depth and breadth of engineering expertise, scalable solutions, and speed to market.



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