Informa Migrates Sensitive Data Securely to the Cloud with Gemalto

The Organization
Informa is one of the largest business information providers publishing books, newspapers, financial data, and more. The Taylor and Francis Group, Lloyd’s List, iMoneyNet, Agra, and CRC Press are all part of the Informa family of companies. In addition, Informa is responsible for a number of conferences, including GSM, Euroforum, and many others. Informa has around 7,000 employees working in some 150 offices in over 40 countries.

The Business Need
For the business leadership at Informa, making the move to a cloud-based infrastructure hosted by Amazon Web Services (AWS) was a compelling opportunity: a way to offload the cost and effort of internally managing their entire European data center infrastructure, while, at the same time, gaining the ability to adapt more quickly to changing business demands. However, in charting this move, it was critical that the organization was able to extend the data privacy and security capabilities they had in their own data center to the cloud. As a leading business information provider, Informa realizes the monetary value of data, and the importance of ensuring that data is secure wherever it resides.

Challenge
When migrating its major data center to an AWS cloud, Informa needed to make certain its most critical asset – its data – was secure, and ensure compliance with a myriad of data protection regulations for protecting sensitive customer and employee data.

Solution
With the Gemalto SafeNet ProtectIV and KeySecure solutions, Informa was able to migrate to the cloud while guarding sensitive assets against access by unauthorized users.

Benefit
Gemalto helped Informa fully leverage the business benefits of a cloud delivery model, unifying encryption and control, while improving business agility secure in the knowledge that only authorized users can consistently access data.

For Informa, a business information provider, data is mission-critical. As they were looking to migrate their entire European data center to the cloud, they needed a data encryption solution that would provide the required security and controls to safeguard sensitive information—so they turned to Gemalto.
The organization also manages a range of sensitive information, including customer records, credit card details, and employee data. Consequently, Informa had to adhere to a number of strict internal policies, as well as external mandates, including European Data Protection laws related to hosting data in an externally managed data center. The European Data Protection law enforces strict privacy rules with respect to the external storage of employee and customer data. Even if the cloud provider offered assurances that the data would remain only on servers based in Europe, if that data accidentally made it to another country or customer, not only would it present a significant security exposure, it would result in a potential breach of privacy rules. Further, because the organization manages the credit card data and other payment information of its customers, Informa needed to continue to ensure compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS).

**The Solution**

To address the organization’s security and compliance demands, Informa’s security team needed to retain effective controls over its data—even as it was migrated from a physical data center to a cloud environment. Toward that end, the company sought a solution that would provide robust encryption and enable seamless integration in a cloud environment. After an assessment of the alternatives, the organization found that Gemalto solutions ProtectV and KeySecure were unique in their ability to meet all the organization’s critical requirements, while also being cost-effective. Informa was able to consolidate their data centers and migrate to the cloud securely, as ProtectV encrypts and secures entire virtualized machines and physical servers, enabling consistent security policy enforcement. As a result, sensitive assets are protected from theft or exposure, even as they are migrated into an external cloud environment. No virtual machine can be launched without proper authorization, and ProtectV provides a well-defined process for protecting data (for example, enforcing controls over the ability to restart virtualized resources that have been idled). With KeySecure, the team can centrally and securely manage cryptographic keys in a hardened appliance that resides on premise to ensure that access to these keys remains in Informa’s control at all times. Gemalto provided a fast test installation, an effective solution, and knowledgeable staff, which helped to streamline the initial decision-making process and speed rollout after the decision to go with Gemalto was made.

**The Benefits**

With Gemalto solutions, Informa has been able to realize the following benefits:

> **Improved security and confidentiality.** With Gemalto, Informa is able to safeguard against unauthorized users or organizations being able to access sensitive data. Now, even in a shared environment, the assets remain encrypted, and protected against exposure.

> **Maximized benefits of the cloud.** While, for many organizations, security and compliance concerns have limited or postponed migration to the cloud, Informa offers proof that organizations can migrate sensitive data, while retaining and even expanding the required safeguards. Today, Informa is running an entire data center at an AWS facility in Ireland.

> **Strengthened compliance.** Gemalto solutions have enabled Informa to run its data center in an external cloud, while retaining the controls and visibility required to adhere to the entire organization’s security policies and regulatory mandates across their virtual and physical environments. Informa is also now able to maintain security throughout the entire data lifecycle.

> **Centralized control behind the scenes.** For Informa’s users, the experience is transparent, as they are typically unaware these security technologies have been employed. However, they and the entire business gain benefits from these vital safeguards, while the company’s IT and security staff enjoy a single management interface for configuring, and monitoring data security policies across physical and cloud infrastructures.

> "Gemalto SafeNet ProtectV is a complete, well-designed solution that runs seamlessly in AWS environments. ProtectV gives us a robust, well-defined process for protecting data, so we can effectively retain the control we need over our sensitive information, harnessing the business benefits of AWS cloud offerings securely."

—Marcus Fritsche, CTO, Informa Group IT, Europe

**About Gemalto’s SafeNet Identity and Data Protection Solutions**

Through its acquisition of SafeNet, Gemalto offers one of the most complete portfolios of enterprise security solutions in the world, enabling its customers to enjoy industry-leading protection of data, digital identities, payments and transactions – from the edge to the core. Gemalto’s newly expanded portfolio of SafeNet Identity and Data Protection solutions enables enterprises across many verticals, including major financial institutions and governments, to take a data-centric approach to security by utilizing innovative encryption methods, best-in-class crypto management techniques, and strong authentication and identity management solutions to protect what matters, where it matters. Through these solutions, Gemalto helps organizations achieve compliance with stringent data privacy regulations and ensure that sensitive corporate assets, customer information, and digital transactions are safe from exposure and manipulation in order to protect customer trust in an increasingly digital world.