

Case Study

Migrating a Financial Software to the Cloud

Companies and individuals everywhere rely heavily on financial software to manage their finances. The sensitive data stored within the software must be secure and highly available – especially during peak times such as monthly billing periods and the annual tax season. It can be difficult to maintain optimal performance of each database due to the stark differences in activity that each database maintains. And other various factors that derive from the data only add further complication to the infrastructure challenges of this complex data ecosystem.

Recently, a large financial software company offering services such as tax filing assistance and small business

payroll management wanted to migrate its growing database ecosystem from on-premises servers to AWS. This migration would allow them to better scale their operations that included tens of thousands of employees and millions of end-users. Needless to say, more operational support was long overdue. The software company had attempted the migration 18 months prior, yet outages and performance issues forced them to fall back to their on-premises servers. They needed the right partner to help make the migration a success with a promise that there would be no interruptions to service.

The Problem

The company experienced data performance issues as well as critical outages, rendering their initial migration to the Cloud unsuccessful. With their software supporting billions of dollars in business worldwide as well as integrations with thousands of servers and applications, a repeat of this failure was not an option.

With tight timelines and mission-critical support needed, Fortified was recommended to help investigate the issues and provide a viable solution. The company needed to migrate back to AWS in just two weeks to avoid potential issues during their peak season. Fortunately, Fortified's team of experts is well-versed in migrations on tight deadlines.

Our Solution

To successfully migrate to the Cloud, Fortified employed a proven and reliable migration and workload strategy. With three days dedicated to planning and the remaining week and a half to migration and optimization, Fortified was able to meet the two-week deadline. However, moving the data was only half the task.




Once the databases and applications were securely hosted in the Cloud, the Fortified team focused on optimization to prepare for the anticipated annual spike in activity during spring tax season. Once performance was tuned, so the platform was stable during the peak workloads, the team could begin executing the following actions on a regular cadence with the client:

-  Assess current data systems performance
-  Fortify performance for peak workloads
-  Decrease data environment risk
-  Plan for continuous upgrades
-  Increase data scalability

When our team successfully remediates acute issues, we garner a certain level of trust. That trust leads to a successful year-on-year cycle of performance enhancement based on decreasing risk and increasing opportunities for improvement.

Results

When it comes to effective scaling strategies, it's important to bear in mind that "scale" doesn't necessarily just mean increasing capacity and adding more capacity and bigger servers; it also means optimizing for space inside the same-sized box.

-  **20% More Server Capacity**
-  **2/3 Less Memory Usage**
-  **\$2 Million Saved In One Month**

