

University of California, Office of the President Transitions to AWS with Sierra-Cedar Cloud Managed Services

Client Overview

The University of California Office of the President (UCOP) is a system of 10 campuses, five medical centers, and three affiliated national laboratories. It processes \$1 billion in payroll for more than 230,000 employees. UCOP manages a complex and unique system to operate as one organization, furthering its public interest, academic, and research missions. UCOP oversees programs that serve the entire university system, allowing campuses to capture efficiencies from centralized operations.

Challenges

UCOP sought a system that could lower operational maintenance and infrastructure costs, better handle demand spikes, and facilitate scheduling adjustments without manual workarounds. In June 2020, UCOP sought to transition 21 environments (PeopleSoft HCM, Informatica, PeopleSoft UPK, and an Enterprise Reporting Solution) to Amazon Web Services (AWS) by December 2020, which was an exit deadline from its current data center and managed services provider. The project needed to support UCOP's scaling needs and state-mandated payroll processing timelines as well as integrate with third-party applications (MuleSoft, Inflight/Drupal, STAT, and GoAnywhere).

Solutions

In an environment complicated by COVID-19, Sierra-Cedar, AWS, and UCOP worked collaboratively to plan and complete the project within the aggressive six-month deadline. Post transition to AWS, Sierra-Cedar continues to provide support of UCOP's AWS environment and PeopleSoft HCM application through Sierra-Cedar's Cloud Managed Services offering.

Key Project Highlights

- Improved performance resulting in significant reductions in payroll processing times
- Integrated system solutions that sustain demands of enterprise usage and adhere to security standard protocols
- Controlled costs and scalability with the ability to increase and reduce resources on demand (no surprise invoices)
- Built-in redundancy for disaster recovery and more time for internal staff to focus on business-critical items
- Used Sierra-Cedar's A²M² methodology (Analyze, Architect, Migrate, and Manage) to move environments to AWS
- Continue to use Sierra-Cedar's FlexOps[®] automation and orchestration platform to manage infrastructure deployment, versioning, drift detection, automation remediation, and change control

From the Client



University of California Office of the President administers and runs a Human Resources and Payroll system which serves its more than 230,000 employees. UCOP recently engaged Sierra-Cedar to move the hosted environments to AWS which was completed on time and on budget. Now that the system is live on the new platform, we have observed significant performance improvements and cost reductions."

Molly Greek
CIO

University of California
Office of the President

Organization Overview

Industry: Higher Education
Location: Oakland, CA

Products & Services

Amazon Web Services
PeopleSoft HCM 9.2
Informatica
Cloud Managed Services
Application Managed Services