

# Kansas State Makes Gains by Moving Most Visible Workloads to AWS Cloud & Relying on Managed Services

## Client Overview

Kansas State University (K-State), a public research university, has taught agriculture, science, military science, and engineering to any interested student for more than 150 years. It first engaged with Sierra-Cedar in May 2018 to restore its PeopleSoft Human Capital Management (HCM) production system on AWS cloud after a fire in K-State's Hale Library damaged the data center located in the library basement. The move to AWS improved the University's performance and increased HCM system availability.

## Project Summary

In the spring of 2019, K-State established a strategic plan called One IT to address the challenges that surface in an ever-shifting IT environment. A goal of the strategic plan was to modernize the University's technology infrastructure. As part of its cloud first strategy, K-State decided to move forward with an ERP migration to AWS after determining that AWS offered significant performance and availability advantages compared to traditional data center options. It then re-engaged with Sierra-Cedar on a joint project partnership to migrate K-State's largest and most visible workloads, PeopleSoft Campus Solutions, PeopleSoft HCM, and Oracle E-Business, to AWS cloud with Sierra-Cedar providing Managed Services in AWS post migration.

## Objectives

- Identify and retrofit objects impacted in the datacenter move to AWS by leveraging Sierra-Cedar's Cloud Accelerator Tool.
- Manage and maintain the University's ERP systems using Sierra-Cedar's proprietary FlexOps® orchestration and automation platform. *FlexOps® is a tool designed to support environment builds, patching, scaling, refreshes, and security monitoring.*
- Provide on-going AWS Cloud hosting support and ERP application management with Sierra-Cedar's Managed Services Provider (MSP) offering.

## Results

Sierra-Cedar worked with K-State to successfully transition the University's most visible workloads to AWS. The outcome of this project landed K-State the E&I Cloud Award in October 2019. Benefits of the project include:

- Scalable, ability to increase and decrease on demand
- Built-in disaster recovery
- Eliminate dependency of on-premise hardware
- Capacity for future system and applications

## From the Client



*This migration further disaster-proofs critical systems that help the University care for our employees and run day-to-day."*

**Jay Stephens**

Vice President for Human  
Capital Services  
Kansas State University

## Organization Overview

Industry: Higher Education  
Location: Manhattan, Kansas  
Students: 24,000  
Faculty: 4,500

## Products & Services

AWS Public Cloud Hosting  
PeopleSoft Campus Solutions  
PeopleSoft HCM  
Oracle E-Business

