

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

