

Financial Services Company Leverages McAfee to Securely Adopt Cloud Services

McAfee® MVISION Cloud provides control over and visibility into cloud platform and application usage



Global Financial Services Company

Industry
Financial Services

IT Environment
14,000 IT users across 45 countries in APAC, EMEA, and the Americas

This global financial services company is one of the largest asset management companies in the world, managing a portfolio worth \$1 trillion and with a physical footprint in 45 countries and global reach to 210 countries.

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CASE STUDY

Becoming a Cloud-First Organization

Continual growth over the years through mergers and acquisitions prompted this global financial services organization to add both mature and less proven technology stacks to their environment. At the same time, the global financial services firm's new executive team brought a cloud-first vision with them from Silicon Valley, pushing the organization to leverage both Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) and Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) technologies.

"We have expanded our infrastructure a lot over the past six to seven years, and not all of our organizations are managed to the same standards," says the financial services firm's global head of technical and applications security. "We were staring at a technical mess without any visibility into who is going to the cloud, where they are going, and what they are doing there."

With a cloud-first push coming from the top and the security challenges that arose from that initiative, the financial services firm's global head of technical and applications security and his team created a cloud governance model based on the framework developed by the Cloud Security Alliance. However, they quickly realized that implementing such a governance framework wouldn't be possible without leveraging a cloud access security broker (CASB).

"It was clear that we needed a tool that would give us the visibility we needed to enable us to be to clean up our stacks and provide consistent security capabilities," says global head of technical and applications security. "Moving to the cloud allowed us to be flexible and have a faster time-to-market, but we needed to be able to standardize policy and security controls as well."

After evaluating several CASB providers, the team at the global financial services firm decided to deploy McAfee® MVISION Cloud into their IT environment. "We evaluated many technologies, but we couldn't get this level of visibility anywhere else. It's like magic," says the global head of technical and applications security. "McAfee provides us with a centralized single pane of glass and the granular visibility we need. We can finally see what is going on, who is going where, and what is happening to our data."

Gaining visibility into Shadow IT

Like most enterprises, the team at the global financial services firm were not surprised to find unsanctioned IT services, or Shadow IT, in use across the organization. But what did surprise them was the extent to which employees were circumventing existing network controls to continue to use high-risk cloud services. "This was an eye opener for all of us," says the global head of technical and applications security. "There were a lot of cloud services in use that offered anonymous usage. Somehow they slipped through our proxies when we thought they were blocked."

Challenges

- Complex technology stacks created a matrix of services that lacked visibility and oversight
- Lacked visibility into user and data traffic, resulting in the usage of high-risk services

McAfee Solution

- McAfee MVISION Cloud for AWS
- McAfee MVISION Cloud for Custom Applications
- McAfee MVISION Cloud for Office 365
- McAfee MVISION Cloud for Sales Cloud
- McAfee MVISION Cloud for ServiceNow
- McAfee MVISION Cloud for Shadow IT

Results

- Increased visibility into data usage and traffic, reducing use of high-risk cloud services
- Standardized DLP policies across the enterprise, supporting compliance regulations
- Accelerated cloud adoption and governance, providing more flexibility and faster time-to-market

CASE STUDY

With McAfee in place, the global head of technical and applications security and his team can quickly vet and validate all cloud services in use across the organization by leveraging the McAfee Global CloudTrust™ Registry, which provides risk ratings for more than 20,000 cloud services. This allows the global financial services firm to accelerate cloud service risk assessment while also reducing their cloud security risk and improving their compliance posture.

A Single Source for Data Loss Prevention

As the global financial services firm progressed with its cloud governance project, an important question arose. “How do we apply the same security controls and data loss prevention policies to our data in the cloud with the same vigor we were used to on premises, for cloud-based, business-critical functions?” says the global head of technical and applications security.

For him and his team, it became clear that the best way to do this was to leverage MVISION Cloud as a central control point for their entire security system, providing a standardized set of data loss prevention (DLP) policies across the organization. This approach allows the global head of technical and applications security and his team to leverage a self-service model where their DLP policies are set once within McAfee and then are pushed

alongside data, anomalies, and events to the rest of their existing incident remediation systems. In this way, the proper teams are provided with the information they need to respond to actionable data immediately.

In utilizing McAfee CASB technology, the global financial services firm has been able streamline their security technology solutions and apply consistent security policies and controls across their entire IT environment allowing them to focus on securing their sanctioned services like Microsoft Office 365.

Using Security to Accelerate Business

“MVISION Cloud has become a central component of our cloud strategy and cloud enablement process,” says the global head of technical and applications security. “And the results are great.”

Initially, the global head of technical and applications security and his team had a lot of resistance from the IT department who wanted them to leverage their existing technologies to solve their cloud-native visibility issues. “We pushed ahead with our cloud agenda, and now the teams that pushed back on us are leveraging McAfee to go back to the business and are using it to up-sell their agendas, pushing our business forward,” says the global head of technical and applications security

CASE STUDY

With the McAfee CASB solution at the core of their cloud strategy, the team at the global financial services firm have been able to take a streamlined approach to consolidating their technology and infrastructure stacks, helping the global financial services firm securely accelerate their business and their cloud adoption. “We started weaving our cloud strategy around

McAfee CASB,” says their global head of technical and applications security. “All new cloud services and projects are supported and enabled by MVISION Cloud, and it has accelerated multiple projects and initiatives, including our Office 365 and Amazon Web Services (AWS) implementations, which had been in limbo. Now, we can execute at an accelerated rate.”



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