LEADING TRANSPORTATION COMPANY ADOPTS CLOUD TO CUT COSTS AND LEVERAGE MAINFRAME DATA FOR BUSINESS ANALYTICS
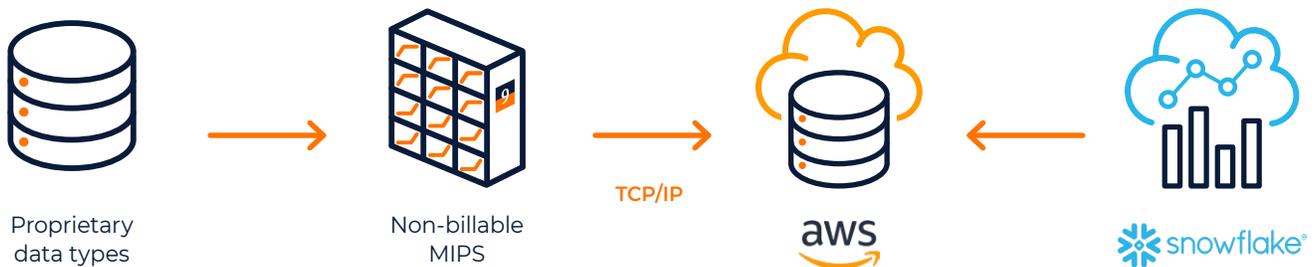
Switches from Tape Architecture to Management of Backup, Archive, Recovery, and Analytics on the AWS Cloud using Model9's Cloud Data Manager for Mainframe

The customer is a leading transportation business, parent company of a number of well known and respected moving services for both corporate and consumer needs.

Driven by a decision to reduce IBM Mainframe data center expenses, and address the growing mainframe skills shortage, The company set out to modernize its secondary storage capabilities. They chose the Model9 cloud data management solution as a front-end for the Amazon S3 cloud storage service.

With Model9, the company was able to replace its costly, proprietary tape systems with Amazon S3 cloud storage, to leverage its valuable mainframe data for business intelligence analytics using Snowflake, and to enhance IT flexibility while cutting data center costs.

CLOUD DATA MANAGEMENT FOR MAINFRAME WITH ACCESS TO DATA FOR ANALYTICS AND BI

Proprietary data types → Non-billable MIPS → TCP/IP → aws ← ❄ snowflake

> *"Model9 was different. We liked the software vs. the hardware option for Backup and Archive. We didn't want to put anything in the data center, we are going Cloud."*
>
> *Director of Infrastructure*

CHALLENGES

The customer runs its global logistics operations – dispatch, delivery, quoting, billing, and revenue distribution – on the mainframe at the core of its corporate network, communicating with distributed systems and its SAN. The company made a strategic decision to leverage cloud and SaaS technologies in order to improve operational efficiency, while reducing investments in their data center and tape-based backup system. They were also concerned about the imminent retirement of their mainframe tape specialists, and the difficulty in recruiting new personnel with tape system know-how. In addition, they wanted to avoid the costly option of putting two virtual tape systems (VTS) in the data center, and rejected this approach in favor of a cloud-based solution.

In addition, the company wished to move its DB2 and other data to a cloud-based data lake for use with the Snowflake cloud data warehouse.

THE SOLUTION

To implement its data strategy, the customer selected Model9 Cloud Data Manager for Mainframe as a management front end for Amazon's S3 storage infrastructure. Model9 runs standard backup, archive, recovery, and space management operations, enabling fast data transfer from the mainframe directly to the cloud over TCP/IP. It reduces mainframe footprint by utilizing cost-efficient zIIP processors.

The companie's implementation is simple – requiring no learning curve – as it integrates with the existing DFSMS environment and features an easy-to-use interface and powerful reporting capabilities.

In order to leverage their valuable mainframe data, they deployed the Model9 Cloud Data Manager for Mainframe to easily transform their DB2 data for cloud-based, business-intelligence processing by Snowflake.

SOLUTION BENEFITS

- Strategic, modernizing move to cloud enhances flexibility and scalability.

- Retirement of legacy tape storage systems reduces data management costs and data center footprint.

- Saves over 50% on MSU consumption by offloading data management processing to zIIP engines.

- Improved access to valuable mainframe data for business intelligence uses.

> *"Data movement is very efficient – Model9 has a very small footprint on the mainframe."*
>
> *"The level of mainframe expertise Model9 offers is outstanding. The team is really knowledgeable and quick to respond."*
>
> Director of Infrastructure

RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

- The company benefited from the flexibility and resilience of Model9's multi-cloud data management paradigm, avoiding expensive, "lock-in" proprietary solutions.

- They also benefited from the efficiency and scalability of cloud analytics – improving their business intelligence capabilities, and leveraging their data to drive new, revenue-generating applications.

- After its entire data repository was uploaded to the cloud, the customer discontinued the use of its legacy tape systems and data management products.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
model9.io/product/cloud-data-manager