Lucidity

A large retailer eliminates mundane maintenance work with Lucidity

Challenges

- Managing a mix of legacy and modern cloud technologies required a significant percentage of available engineering resources
- Lean engineering team that couldn't afford to get bogged down in mundane work
- Topline initiatives to keep cloud costs under control required new ways

Solution

- This large retailer autonomously rightsizes its block storage with Lucidity AutoScaler
- Eliminated management and maintenance work across their block storage, freeing up engineering for high impact initiatives
- Cut out Managed Disk waste so they could reallocate budget more efficiently

Results

- **28,000+** provisioning tasks automated for **350TB** of data
- Nearly **2x** increase in disk utilization, from 49% to 82%
- **$230k** of annual savings, growing every day

Company at a glance

Industry
Retail

Region
Americas

Cloud Platforms
Azure

A digital transformation for a standalone company

This company is a large national retailer that procures and curates goods from all around the world for sale in their retail locations and online. With a storied history of operations, this company has gone through several changes in operations. As part of a major change a few years back, all relevant infrastructure was moved to Azure in a lift and shift migration.

As a result of the migration, they have a mix of legacy and modern technologies that they need to support and balance cost vs performance. For legacy technologies, the goal of the engineering team is to make them self-sufficient, so they can focus their efforts on modern architectures.

Driving cost optimization and automation initiatives

The engineering team is responsible for managing the infrastructure, networking, and new development for ecommerce and marketing technologies. Over the past three years, there's been a drive to keep costs under control and prevent spikes. The engineering team has leveraged Azure features and functions for that undertaking, but had reached the limit of what they could do with those alone.

While working with a partner on their cloud environment, they were introduced to Lucidity, and the value was instantly appealing. They did a proof of concept and saw the potential for cost savings right away. However, as they began to roll out Lucidity, the engineering team realized that the power of automation that AutoScaler delivers was going to have a much stronger impact for them.

"The technology behind AutoScaler made immediate sense to me, and I was happy about the potential we saw for cost savings. As we started rolling it out, I realized that Lucidity brings so much more than only cost savings. It takes the support and maintenance piece completely out of my block storage management. The operational stability that comes from the automated provisioning is a big deal."

**Sr Director of Engineering,
Large Retailer**

The dual savings and automation benefits of Lucidity

Lucidity AutoScaler eliminates overprovisioning on an ongoing basis through autonomous block storage rightsizing. The retailer felt the impact of this right away for their premium disks in Azure. Rightsizing these disks brought significant savings. But the real value came out after the initial savings were realized. The engineering team quickly realized that not only are they paying less for their storage, but they don't have to manage their block storage disks anymore. The alerts and constant worry about them disappeared.

"Since we rolled out AutoScaler, we haven't had a single P1 or P2 or Sev2 incident where our disks filled up and a server failed. Given our mix of legacy and modern technologies, we used to have these regularly. With legacy systems in particular, adding disks is a lot of manual effort with a business impact. With Lucidity, all that management and maintenance is gone. In the past 8 months, we haven't had to do any of it! No emergency changes or late night calls."

**Sr Director of Engineering,
Large Retailer**

Running a lean team that is disciplined and focused with their time is a key part of the engineering teams' strategy. The only way they are able to reach the levels of productivity that they are known for is through automation and abstracting away manual, low-level work. With Lucidity, they were able to reinvest some of the savings into expanding the team, and saw a major increase in their ability to spend time on key engineering initiatives by eliminating the mundane, day-to-day work of managing cloud block storage, especially on disks with legacy OSs that are more time consuming to deal with.

> *"Lucidity is a driving force for decreasing waste in my cloud environment. Every public cloud environment has unused resources that you're paying your CSP for. Lucidity cuts down unused disk space and associated expenses, and ensures that I don't pay for unused resources in the cloud"*
>
> **Sr Director of Engineering,**
> **Large Retailer**

Not only did Lucidity rightsize the retailer's block storage, it keeps it rightsized on an ongoing basis. The continuous optimization ensures that the company can realize the savings and benefits of automation no matter how their data grows and changes, and with the benefit of cutting out the mundane work that ate up significant time before Lucidity. This helps them ensure they can plan and prioritize their team initiatives in the future while having the peace of mind in knowing that their block storage is optimized and not eating up valuable cloud budget on invisible waste.

Driving continuous optimization through automation

Maximizing the value they realize from their cloud spend and engineering time is a driving ethos for this large retail company. Lucidity fits seamlessly into this approach, reclaiming wasted spend and removing time-consuming cloud block storage support and maintenance work from the engineering team's plate. This helps the company focus on their high-impact engineering initiatives, confident that they're getting the most out of their cloud block storage spend.

With their Managed Disk provisioning automated and optimized, this retail company is excited about finding new ways to increase the impact of their engineering team and cloud services without slowing down for manual storage management.

Lucidity is the industry's first multi-cloud storage management company, helping enterprises around the globe save up to 70% on their cloud bill and reclaim 100s of hours of DevOps effort with zero changes to their code. Lucidity brings automation, cost savings, and clarity to cloud storage across AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud.

Some of the largest enterprises in the world leverage Lucidity to autonomously rightsize cloud block storage on an ongoing basis, get unified visibility into key storage metrics, see data-driven recommendations for disk tiering, and make one-click, downtime-free changes. Lucidity enables IT, Cloud, and DevOps teams to optimize storage management and deliver world-class performance without inefficient manual work and cost overruns.

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