

FEDERAL AGENCY

A large federal agency managed a 10x increase in VMs while reducing provisioning time from days to minutes with CloudBolt

A large federal agency was struggling to deliver infrastructure to users and the COVID-19 pandemic put even more pressure on those VMware delivery systems. The agency ultimately replaced VMware with CloudBolt.

At-a-glance

Agency information

10K+

Employees

\$11B+

Annual budget

1946

Founded — operating for over 70 years

Impact



10x increase in VMs & virtual desktops

Auto-deployed via self-service



Days to minutes

Provisioning time freed up for critical projects



Easy interoperability

Frictionless implementation

CHALLENGES AT A GLANCE

- Outgrew the limits of vRA to automate delivery of VMs and virtual desktops
- Held back by VMware vRealize Automation (vRA)'s steep learning curve — own language, syntax, and troubleshooting
- Challenged by VMware being infinitely more difficult when dealing with non-VMware platforms
- Inability to simplify self-service process in order to scale

CLOUDBOLT SOLUTIONS AT A GLANCE

- ✓ Ease of CloudBolt orchestration allows more automation today and in the future
- ✓ Achieve entire lifecycle management: hard with others, simple with CloudBolt
- ✓ CloudBolt's flexibility provides the ability to solve problems in multiple, different ways (saves time)

CHALLENGES

The federal agency used vRA to offer virtual desktops and virtual machines in a variety of operating system flavors to varying internal audiences. But as the federal agency grew and expanded, the administrative burden became too much to continue with vRA.

VMware was good at working with VMware, but it became infinitely more difficult when working with other non-VMware infrastructure. Because the federal agency is primarily a research center, they needed to test and try varying scenarios and use cases on different hypervisors, public clouds, and platforms. VMware made that difficult.

The orchestrator for vRA had its own syntax, language, and troubleshooting steps, which forced a significant learning curve.

The cloud architect at the federal agency explained, "You had to dive into the weeds. We simply don't have the time to teach ourselves how to code in a new VMware-based language. Even the automation scripts provided, needed work and were not 'out of the box'."

“

We needed more **simplification** in the self-service IT process than VMware gave us.”

— IT manager at federal agency

“

We plugged CloudBolt into vCenter and it just worked! It was both easier to implement and added more functionality than vRealize Automation (vRA).”

— IT manager at federal agency

SOLUTION

The team wasn't sure what was available in the market as they began searching and evaluating. "We looked at 4 or 5 other competing solutions to vRA before choosing CloudBolt," shared the cloud architect.

IT Manager for the federal agency further added, "Our goal is automation, do more without adding people. CloudBolt gives us a WIN-WIN. Orchestration is easy for users with CloudBolt and requires less administrative time (single pane & simple to use)!"

“ You can do entire lifecycle management using the CloudBolt framework. This is very difficult to do and CloudBolt makes it easy.”

— IT manager at federal agency

BENEFITS

Like nearly every IT department on the globe, the federal agency was being asked to do more projects with fewer people and less budget, which required more advanced automation, orchestration, and simplification. CloudBolt's flexibility enabled the federal agency to:

Manage a 10x increase in VMs & virtual desktops auto-deployed via self-service

As their number of VMs and virtual desktops increased by more than 10x, the federal agency was able to automate their deployment via self-service with CloudBolt. No more diving into the weeds or having to learn a new VMware-based language meant that the federal agency was able to handle the increased workload without problems.

"With CloudBolt you just hit a button and provisioning orchestration just happens.... IP address, Db/file share, compute, user info pulled from directory, options for Windows or Linux. That whole process used to be multiple manual ones taking weeks.... now we've been able to reduce that to mere minutes!"

Reduce provisioning from days to minutes with CloudBolt

CloudBolt's true out-of-the-box experience gave users the simplicity that vRA couldn't, reducing provisioning times from days to minutes.

"Instead of developers spending time configuring an environment, we worked through the process to get images to where they're all standardized, ready to go right out of the box. And they just run with it!"

Easily interoperate

CloudBolt also easily plugs in to existing environments no matter what the deployment. For the federal agency, CloudBolt replaced vRA without any friction while adding more functionality.

"We plugged CloudBolt into vCenter and it just worked! It was both easier to implement and added more functionality than vRealize Automation (vRA)."

— ABOUT CLOUDBOLT

CloudBolt Software helps enterprises turn cloud complexity into operational advantage by bringing intelligent automation, governance, and optimization to public, private, hybrid, and multi-cloud environments.

Its portfolio combines industry-leading cloud management with AI/ML driven Kubernetes rightsizing and optimization, enabling organizations to actively control and optimize cloud usage as it happens. CloudBolt empowers platform engineering, IT operations, and finance teams with the insight and automation they need to run cloud environments at scale—efficiently, continuously, and with confidence.

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— NEXT STEPS

Solve your hybrid cloud challenges

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