Cherry Bekaert Delivers Secure Workspaces To Drive Its Business

About Cherry Bekaert

Cherry Bekaert has provided high quality financial and management services to a diverse and successful client base. Thousands of clients look to Cherry Bekaert's accountants and advisors for innovative and professional guidance on important operational and financial matters that advance their business goals.

Currently ranked among the nation's largest accounting firms, Cherry Bekaert is uniquely positioned to impart quality, cost-effective and practical advice to clients that include multinational corporations, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, emerging firms, start-ups and successful individuals.

Cherry Bekaert helps advance client growth by offering the resources and extensive service opportunities normally associated with national firms, coupled with the personal relationship, value-based fee structure and service continuity of a local firm. Their impressive roster of more than 1,100 professionals stands ready to assist with all our client's accounting, audit, tax and consulting needs.

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"CloudHesive was fantastic to work with. They architected an extremely secure Amazon Workspaces solution that allowed us to securely leverage our proprietary technology and increase our professional services capacity overnight. In addition, the managed service CloudHesive provides on secure AWS workspaces now permits Cherry Bekaert to expand our client base to those demanding this type of controlled environment for their data. "

- Jack Redfield -
INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER, CHERRY BEKAERT

The Challenge

Cherry Bekaert had a business need to provide extremely secure and responsive virtual desktops for accountants and 3rd party auditors. The Cherry Bekaert team knew that they had to find a solution that would provide a secure and auditable working environment. They knew they also needed to seek a managed service because they didn't have the resources internally to architect, build and manage such a complex environment. Cherry Bekaert needed secure functionality to provide secure shared storage so their users could securely share documents with

customers, they needed to provide secure access to their proprietary tools for audit purposes and have implemented security controls to make sure the environment was auditable and highly secured. Also, each group of auditors needed an application that required a file server and SQL server. There would also be multiple tenants or groups of auditors in the AWS environment at the same time, therefore segregation and restriction rules are a must. The multiple groups also required an ability to differentiate costs per auditor groups.

Solution

CloudHesive worked with Cherry Bekaert to understand the complete set of requirements and needs of the Cherry Bekaert. The CloudHesive team worked hand in hand with the internal team of Cherry Bekaert to build a secure architecture which was presented to the security team at Cherry for review and approval. Once the architecture was approved the CloudHesive team set out to build the environment. We implemented the security control plane, Amazon cloud landing zone, and implement multiple 3rd party partner security tools to meet the security requirements. The secure solution included multiple third-party tools that assist in locking the environment down, including MFA, IDS/IPS and content filtering solutions. The final solution was a fully managed highly secured and controlled environment that allowed Cherry Bekaert to grow its accounting and audit business line. AWS tagging, and cost explorer allows for segregation of the AWS bill and charge back per auditor group. CloudHesive's Centricity provides Cherry Bekaert's IT department with further visibility and easier management of the Workspaces.

Technologies Leveraged
AWS: VPC, EC2, EBS, Managed AD, Amazon Workspaces, Amazon WorkDocs

Third party applications or solutions used
Trend Micro, DUO, Sophos, Datadog, Sumologic, Liquidware, CloudHesive's Centricity

Benefits

The solution we built for Cherry Bekaert allowed them to increase its professional services capacity. Since Cherry Bekaert works in the accounting and auditing field their big time of year is during the tax season. They are prepared to ramp up their accounting teams across the country because of the CloudHesive Secure Workspaces solution that was delivered.