Accountancy firm fights fraud with **trailblazing Bytes AWS solution**

Customer Profile

Industry: Finance   Workforce: 700+

Overview

Crowe UK are a leading tax, audit, risk and advisory firm. They are an independent member of Crowe Global - the eighth largest accounting network in the world. Crowe are trusted by thousands of organisations to provide leading insights, specialist advice and deep market knowledge. Their wide range of services includes a unique forensic service that helps prevent fraud and cybercrime.

Challenge

Crowe had a client needing to find fraud in large amounts of data. For extra support on this project, they contacted S-branch, a leading criminal analytics consultancy that has helped fight gun crime and animal trafficking. They advised using IBM i2 Analyst's Notebook for this project. This complex visual analytics tool is commonly used by organisations like NATO and the police to prevent or disrupt criminal activity. It equips analysts with the advanced intelligence capabilities they need to detect, disrupt and defeat both cybercrime and physical crime. Because Crowe's analysts were working remotely, they needed to use IBM i2 in the cloud - specifically AWS - using a pre-configured environment. Tough deadlines also meant they needed to start using it fast. Crowe needed experts who could help them deploy IBM i2 in the cloud effectively, securely and quickly.

The Bytes Solution

Crowe chose Bytes AWS to deploy IBM i2 due to their extensive knowledge and experience. Bytes were venturing into new territory with this project as IBM i2 is rarely deployed in AWS. However, they were keen to get started and kicked things off with a detailed scoping call to determine requirements. Bytes' architects decided to host the environment in Amazon WorkSpaces – a reliable and cost-effective solution that enables users to access their desktop securely anywhere. This would enable Crowe to use IBM i2 remotely. Bytes provided both high-level and low-level designs to ensure the environment was built to AWS Well Architected Best Practices. So that Crowe could use the solution quickly, Bytes AWS built and tested the environment using infrastructure as code. To minimise cloud running costs, Bytes designed the environment to 'rest' when not in use. They also boosted security by using encryption and giving Crowe full ownership.

Benefits

This trailblazing project was a success. Crowe were able to use IBM i2 remotely, reliably and securely using the AWS cloud platform. This meant their analysts were able to uncover fraudulent activity and provide valuable information for their client. As a member of an international group, accessing this environment securely and quickly anywhere was of huge benefit for Crowe. This could not have been achieved without the AWS technology the software sits on, or the expertise of Bytes AWS and S-branch.