Viewpost

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About

Industry
SaaS, Financial

Company size
50-200

Headquarters
Maitland, FL

Objective

To get visibility into gaps of AWS resources cost, and find performance-safe savings.

Success

Clarity of AWS costs, right-sized EC2 instances

Featured Commentators

Lawrence "LT" Telfort
Systems Administrator

Viewpost Gets Insights To Cut AWS Cost in Half

viewpost®

The Company

As a fintech company with a customer base of over 300,000, Viewpost needs expansive, scalable IT infrastructure for delivering its invoicing and payment services. At the same time, the company must balance infrastructure performance and reliability with cost efficiency.

That need, along with CloudWisdom's commitment to customer support, is why Viewpost selected CloudWisdom as a key solution in its infrastructure management toolkit.

The Challenge

Controlling Cloud Computing Costs

When Viewpost moved its infrastructure several years ago to a completely cloud-based infrastructure running on AWS, its engineers quickly realized that they required more visibility into cloud computing costs than AWS's native tools provided.

"We had to figure out how much our resources were costing us," said Lawrence "LT" Telfort, Systems Administrator at Viewpost. "We wanted to capture the missing gaps."

Those gaps included a lack of visibility into questions such as how much memory the company's EC2 instances were consuming, and whether engineers could reduce costs by lowering memory allocation without sacrificing performance.

Tracking memory usage proved difficult at first because "there is no memory foot-printing within AWS natively," said Shawn Strickland, Operations Manager for Viewpost. That pushed the team to look for solutions that could track metrics like memory usage.

The Solution

CloudWisdom's Best-in-Breed Cost-Management Features

At first, Strickland said, he wrote a tool himself to provide this visibility. But as soon as he began experimenting with CloudWisdom, he and his colleagues realized that it provided all the cost-management functionality they required—in a more effective way than their in-house solution (and other commercial APM tools).

> **"Most tools couldn't manage cost in any way, shape or form, and CloudWisdom provided better features than we could build."**

With the help of CloudWisdom's cost-management functionality, Viewpost was able to reduce its AWS infrastructure costs by more than half, according to Strickland.

"We had instances that were over-provisioned, and CloudWisdom helped us see that they were being underused so we could resize them," said Telfort, who added that CloudWisdom "helped us be more agile with how we use instances."
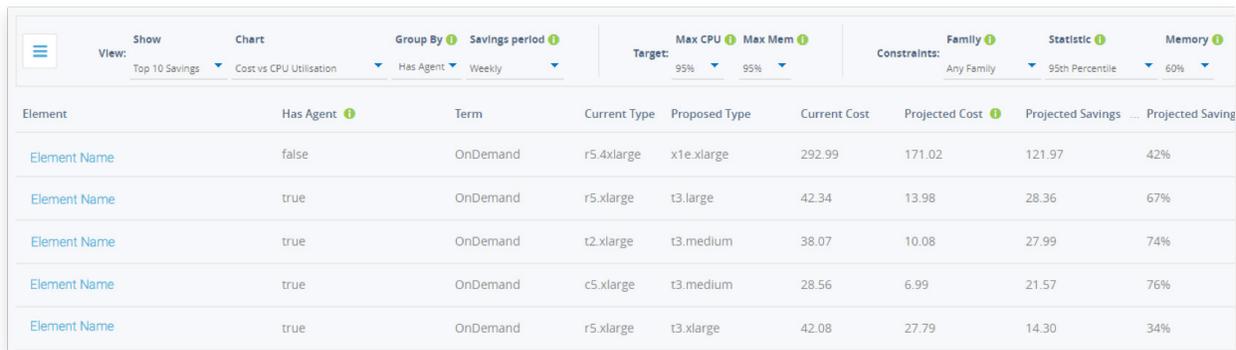
Element	Has Agent	Term	Current Type	Proposed Type	Current Cost	Projected Cost	Projected Savings	Projected Saving
Element Name	false	OnDemand	r5.4xlarge	x1e.xlarge	292.99	171.02	121.97	42%
Element Name	true	OnDemand	r5.xlarge	t3.large	42.34	13.98	28.36	67%
Element Name	true	OnDemand	t2.xlarge	t3.medium	38.07	10.08	27.99	74%
Element Name	true	OnDemand	c5.xlarge	t3.medium	28.56	6.99	21.57	76%
Element Name	true	OnDemand	r5.xlarge	t3.xlarge	42.08	27.79	14.30	34%

CloudWisdom's EC2 Recommendations for Viewpost's environment

Unparalleled Support

A third key benefit for Viewpost's engineers is the exceptional level of technical support that CloudWisdom's team provides. When asked what he likes most about CloudWisdom, Strickland said, "It's the support engagement, including at the executive level. It is one of the few companies where that is actually a value."

> **"I always feel like CloudWisdom is trying to be proactive" with customer support. "It's rare that it's a reactive type of situation."**

Going forward, Telfort, Strickland and their team plan to leverage CloudWisdom as they move more workloads to containerized and serverless environments. "We're doing more and more in the container and serverless space," Strickland said. "It's extraordinarily problematic to manage those scenarios, but we're working closely with CloudWisdom to help us optimize the use of serverless platforms and containers."

Learn more about CloudWisdom

Contact a Virtana Expert

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