Optimal Modern Application Performance with DevOps at Scale

The Climate Corporation Harvests More Time for Innovation Using New Relic and AWS

The Climate Corporation is a digital agriculture company founded in 2006, with headquarters in San Francisco, CA. It creates tools and applications, including Climate FieldView, that enable farmers to collect, store, and visualize critical field data. Modern farmers use the data—such as knowing the best time to water or harvest crops—to optimize the performance of their acreage, drive efficiencies, and control costs.

The Climate Corporation is experiencing hypergrowth. As a startup, its DevOps teams had the flexibility to choose tools in the developer language of their choice. This led to a lack of standardization and inefficiencies. Now, it has a workforce that spans across four continents with 180 microservices to monitor and maintain and a subscription base doubling quickly. As a result, The Climate Corporation needed effective, scalable, and real-time observability.

Monitoring and observability from New Relic

The Climate Corporation was already using New Relic in addition to open source and other monitoring tools. While open source is technically free, the company realized the hidden cost was that its developers needed to be experts to use those tools. As the business grew, it wanted its developers to focus and specialize in their areas of expertise, such as building data models and new features and eliminate time spent on training how to use the myriad of monitoring tools they used.

The Climate Corporation could keep investing in point solutions (one tool for monitoring apps, one for infrastructure, one for browser, etc.), or it could let a company like New Relic be the specialists in monitoring and observability across the entire IT stack. It moved from open source and fully embraced the out-of-the box solution.

"I don't want to have to be a thought leader with regards to gathering metrics or even how the data is gathered," says Scott Pigeon, Senior Staff Engineer, The Climate Corporation. "New Relic comes out-of-the box at no extra charge. I just have to wire it up, which is extremely easy, pull the data out, and then manipulate it so that my developers understand where the problems are and build solutions for their scientists."

New Relic helps The Climate Corporation decipher the data they're getting. Instead of pulling thousands of metrics, New Relic pulls only the metrics needed for analysis. With New Relic, a user can ask, *What are the 10 metrics we need to standardize on for rest, for queuing, for AWS Lambda, for Amazon EMR?*

New Relic: Monitor Apps and Data

- Gain real-time actionable insights
- View every change in your cloud environment
- Maintain optimal performance at scale
- Monitor custom applications and infrastructure

Challenge

The Climate Corporation creates digital tools and applications that aggregate data from farmers' fields to help them make informed, data-driven decisions about their crops. The company had 180 microservices and multiple tools to monitor and maintain. It needed a way to monitor more effectively, at scale, and in real time.

Solution

New Relic helped the company evolve its DevOps strategy, providing a common tool to monitor all its applications and aggregate data into one view.

Results

Now The Climate Corporation spends more time germinating ideas and harvesting innovation—focusing on products, features, and growth—instead of monitoring and maintaining tools.
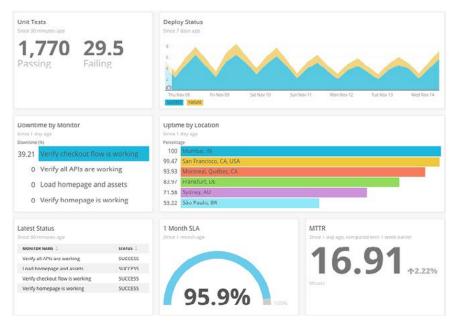
"If, for some reason, a service fails, the farmer's going to drop you. You get one chance. You have to be reliable."

Scott Pigeon,
Senior Staff Engineer,
The Climate Corporation

aws

On Amazon Web Services (AWS) since the start

The Climate Corporation was already on AWS when it decided to use New Relic, which helps the company monitor AWS services including the performance of Amazon EMR clusters. The New Relic and AWS solution is available in AWS Marketplace and:

- Offers 32 (and counting) AWS integrations, including AWS Lambda, Amazon EC2, and Amazon CloudWatch

- Helps The Climate Corporations decipher its data

- Moves with the company as it scales up for harvest and planting

- Helps The Climate Corporation standardize as it grows into an enterprise-size corporation

The benefits for The Climate Corporation

Improved DevOps processes: Scaling DevOps requires modern monitoring and collaboration processes. New Relic was a catalyst for helping The Climate Corporation evolve its DevOps strategy with scalable monitoring tools.

Single view for all data: With New Relic and AWS, The Climate Corporation has a connected platform that brings global teams together. Now the company has a common tool to monitor all its applications and aggregate data into one view.

Rolling out new services: The Climate Corporation is in the process of expanding mobile, IoT, browser, and API connections to its analytic tools.

More visibility to data: The Climate Corporation ensures modern farmers have real-time visibility to data that helps them make informed decisions about their crops and prepares them for the growth ahead.

New Relic: Performance monitoring for AWS

New Relic and AWS solutions help customers migrate, adopt, and grow faster on the cloud as quickly and cost efficiently as possible. With New Relic you get a shared view across your stack, from applications to infrastructure, and can see the context of every change in your cloud environment to help you maintain optimal performance at any scale.

- Application performance and infrastructure monitoring

- Out-of-the-box compatibility with AWS services

- Available for purchase in AWS Marketplace

About New Relic

New Relic is a comprehensive cloud-based observability platform built to create more perfect software. From the beginning, New Relic's ambition has driven the company to instrument the digital world. Software and DevOps teams from around the world rely on New Relic to move faster, make better decisions, and create best-in-class digital experiences. The New Relic One Platform is an observability platform that is open, connected, and programmable, empowering teams to find, visualize, and understand everything they need to deliver more perfect software. Learn more about New Relic for AWS.