

CASE STUDY

BEYONDSOFT OPTIMIZES & MIGRATES GLOBAL AD SOLUTION TO LEVERAGE SCALABILITY & FLEXIBILITY OF AWS

ENGAGEMENT START AND END DATES

March – September 2020

ABOUT OUR CUSTOMER

[Integral Ad Science \(IAS\)](#) is a global market leader in digital ad verification, offering technologies that drive high-quality advertising media. IAS equips advertisers and publishers with the insight and technology to protect advertising investments from fraud and unsafe environments as well as to capture consumer attention and deliver business outcomes. Founded in 2009, IAS is headquartered in New York, with global operations in 18 offices across 13 countries.

THE CHALLENGE

IAS had decided to gradually migrate their full infrastructure to AWS, including a solution which helps customers track and optimize ad campaigns across publishers and partners such as Facebook. Core to this technology is the ability to collect, process, aggregate, and analyze ad impressions, clicks, views, and other events related to individual ad sessions.

Over the years, their on-premise solution for ingesting ad events had become unwieldy to support and difficult to scale. The solution was not set up to work in the cloud. It needed to be refactored to simplify code management, take advantage of AWS native services, and perform optimally in the cloud. They needed coding and migration support from an AWS veteran like Beyondsoft.



THE SOLUTION

In less than six months, Beyondsoft updated and migrated the IAS solution to AWS. Prior to the migration, Beyondsoft refactored the solution's entire codebase from top to bottom and implemented a cloud-based ad event ingestion solution to support multiple partners, minimize operational costs and coding, and scale dynamically to accommodate sudden volume spikes.

To streamline the code and enable scalability, Beyondsoft analyzed the logic for each partner, identifying shared code and pinpointing standard areas for partner-specific logic. This effort laid the foundation for a simpler, more transparent codebase that could be quickly scaled to new partners while being easier and more cost-effective to support in the long term. In addition, the refactoring also optimized the solution for the cloud and leveraging AWS capabilities.

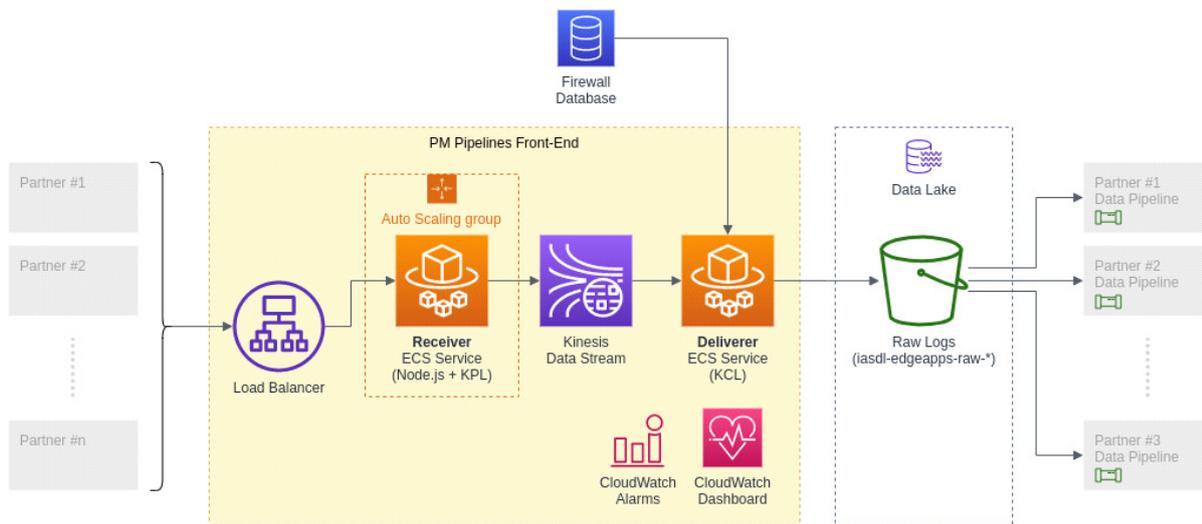
How the solution works

The comprehensive solution makes the most of AWS functionality while reacting dynamically with speed. To achieve optimal performance, it separates the ad events pipeline into two pieces: a receiver at the front end and a deliverer at the back end.

For the front-end receiver service, a lightweight Node.js web-service behind Elastic Load Balancing (ELB) provides the HTTP API endpoints to which partners submit ad events. The application has a very short start-up time and scales automatically based on the incoming traffic volume. The application validates and converts partner-specific API calls

to standard ad event records. It then passes these records to a background Kinesis Producer Library (KPL) process that buffers and pushes the records to a Kinesis Data Stream which smooths the shape of the incoming traffic, enabling downstream processes to work more efficiently. Amazon ELB and auto-scaling Amazon Elastic Container Service (ECS)/AWS Fargate service for the pipeline front-end enable low operational costs, while still being a serverless, easy-to-maintain solution.

On the back end of the Kinesis Data Stream—the deliverer service—a Kinesis Client Library (KCL)-based application enriches ad event records with additional properties derived from external services, and stores the records in the Amazon S3/AWS Glue Catalog-based data lake for further processing. Amazon Cloud Watch is used to collect and surface pipeline metrics for dashboard monitoring, and alerts administrators when pipeline errors exceed specific thresholds.



RESULTS

- Reduced operational costs: The streamlined solution in AWS requires fewer resources.
- Increased scalability: IAS can quickly and cost effectively scale to new partners.
- Improved flexibility & performance: IAS is leveraging the performance and advanced capabilities of AWS.
- Improved integration: The new solution integrates with AWS-based client infrastructure for greater collaboration.

TECHNOLOGIES USED

Elastic Load Balancing (ELB), Amazon Elastic Container Service (ECS), AWS Fargate, Amazon Kinesis, Kinesis Data Streams (KDS), Kinesis Producer Library (KPL), Kinesis Client Library (KCL), Amazon S3, AWS Glue, AWS Auto Scaling, Amazon CloudWatch, Amazon DynamoDB, AWS Cloud Development Kit (CDK), AWS CloudFormation

ABOUT BEYONDSOFT

Beyondsoft has performed hundreds of data migrations for large enterprise customers. Our certified practitioners have hands-on, best-practice knowledge of all the major platforms. As [an AWS Data Migration Competency Partner](#), Beyondsoft has invested in building deep proficiency on the AWS platform.

Beyondsoft has a deep history of empowering companies around the world through high quality IT services. At the heart of our success is a diversely talented team of 14,000+ experts who thrive on innovation. With 32 delivery centers distributed across five continents, our presence in both mature and emerging markets enables us to respond quickly to customers' needs on a local, regional, and global level.