

PKWARE Streamlines Data Exchange for City Government



Time Consuming Encryption

In one of the country's largest cities, a government agency faced a series of challenges as it struggled to manage a rapidly increasing volume of secure data traffic.

The Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), the city government's central technology agency, is tasked with managing the city's technological infrastructure and providing support for other city departments. A key component of the OCTO's mission is managing data exchange between dozens of city and federal government organizations.

To meet federal standards for secure data exchange, the OCTO had relied on PGP encryption using a well-known encryption application. As the amount of data traffic grew year after year, however, data encryption became increasingly time-consuming. When encryption processing times began to cause the OCTO to miss its service commitments, the agency implemented a compression solution to reduce file sizes prior to encryption and transmission.

Rethinking The Solution

Soon after, under pressure to curb costs and reduce complexity, the OCTO began searching for ways to consolidate technologies where possible. The agency's solution for data exchange came under scrutiny, as it employed one application to compress data and a second application to encrypt it. Licensing, maintaining, and training on multiple technologies was costly and added unnecessary complexity to each data exchange operation.

Pain Points

- Increasingly data exchange Volume
- Missed service commitments
- Budget pressure
- Overly complex processes

About PKWARE

PKWARE offers the only data discovery and protection solution that locates and secures sensitive data to minimize organizational risks and costs, regardless of device or environment. Our ultra-efficient, scalable software is simple to use on a broad range of data types and repositories, enabling precise, automated visibility and control of personal data, even in the fastest-moving, most complex IT environments. With more than 1,200 customers, including many of the world's largest financial institutions, retailers, healthcare organizations, and government agencies, PKWARE continues to innovate as an award-winning global leader in data discovery, security, and compliance. To learn more, visit PKWARE.com.

PKWARE'S Solution

While evaluating alternatives to its current encryption process, the OCTO found that PKWARE's solution would allow the agency to combine compression and encryption functionality in a single application. PKWARE's ability to support OpenPGP encryption (among other encryption standards) meant that the agency could maintain its current data security policies while improving performance and reducing costs.

After a thorough analysis of PKWARE's compression performance and persistent data encryption capabilities, the OCTO decided to move forward by replacing the existing compression and encryption applications with PKWARE. As a result, government entities across the city are now able to compress and encrypt large files using a single application.

Inspired by the success of OCTO's PKWARE implementation, another city agency, also using multiple encryption solutions, followed suit by evaluating and licensing PKWARE for Servers. The use of a standard encryption solution between their data center operation and that of the OCTO has further improved the city's data exchange capabilities.

Solution

- Elimination of redundant technology
- Single application for compression and encryption
- Installation on agency mainframe and multiple servers
- 100% FISMA compliance for protecting data in motion

Goals Achieved

The unique capabilities of PKWARE enabled several of the city's IT departments to streamline their process for exchanging data while providing persistent protection for sensitive information. The Office of the Chief Technology Officer and other city agencies continue to save money while providing a high level of service and maintaining compliance with federal and local data security regulations.

