

CO-OP Tohoku Japan Case Study

Use Case - Cost and Operational Intelligence

Case Study

CloudNatix Platform helps Co-op Tohoku Japan automate cloud cost & operation optimization



CASE STUDY

Executive Summary

Co-op Tohoku is a business association of 7 Co-op groups in the Tohoku region. It has 120 stores and 54 delivery depots, and it plays a vital role as life infrastructure by providing various services including store, delivery, and services (e.g., insurance).

The union was working on a transformation that actively adopts digital technology and accelerates their move to public cloud, and as part of this, Co-op Tohoku was migrating various systems including mission-critical business systems to Amazon Web Services (AWS). CloudNatix Platform helped Co-op Tohoku in visualizing cost and identifying automated optimization opportunities.

The Challenge

The total sales of Co-op Tohoku is 262.1 billion JPY in 2021. Its breakdown is 155.7 billions JPY (104.6% growth) for the store business and 95.0 billions JPY (115.5% growth) for the delivery business. Since 2019 Co-op Tohoku has provided a smartphone application that provides order and payment services, and it has been used by one hundred thousand users.

As Co-op Tohoku moved to Cloud, it became imperative that Co-op Tohoku needs the ability to visualize and optimize cloud cost quickly. At the same time, Co-op Tohoku was newly adopting Cloud and it was a challenge to automate our cloud VM operations.

About Co-op Tohoku Japan

Co-op Tohoku (Co-op Tohoku Sun Net Jigyo Region) is a business association of 7 co-op groups in the Tohoku region. Co-op Tohoku is a member of national federation of co-op from Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU), which is the largest consumers' organization in Japan.

“CloudNatix has helped us simplify our Cloud operations from the start by providing a unified efficiency dashboard for operations and cost optimization”

- Toshihiko Kono, Managing director,
CO-OP Tohoku Japan

Detailed Capabilities

The Solution

CloudNatix Platform is great for visualizing cost and identifying automated optimization opportunities, and it accelerates customers' operations at every stage in the Cloud journey, from initial migration to full production and expansion.

CloudNatix Dashboard and Insights provides excellent visibility and automation for back-end systems of Co-op Tohoku built on AWS. Development/operation teams can share the recommendations provided by CloudNatix Platform to quickly optimize cost using techniques such as right sizing and schedule start and stop of EC2 instances. visibility takes the guesswork out of operations. The productivity of the developers and devops has increased tremendously using the CloudNatix Platform.

Co-op Tohoku lifted a Windows client application from on-prem to AWS and is planning to lift ~500 VMs in total. As part of the initial migration effort, Co-op decided to set up 12 Windows remote desktop client VMs so that internal users can continue to access the client application in the same way as they used to do in on-prem. While this model worked successfully, it was causing a lot of additional cost. In particular, EC2 instances were running during non-business hours while there were no active users. AWS charges cost based on EC2 instance running time.

With CloudNatix, Co-op Tohoku was able to stop remote desktop client VMs when they are not used. CloudNatix Operations Manager provides the ability to start and stop EC2 instances with a predetermined schedule. By creating schedules for stopping EC2 instances during non-business hours, Co-op Tohoku was able to save 50% of cost from the 12 remote desktop client VMs.

CloudNatix has also been expanded to Co-op Pay (electronic payment service) and it has been providing visibility and recommendation to their AWS Auto Scaling groups across 6 VPCs (2 VPCs for prod, 2 VPCs for staging, and 2 VPCs for dev).

CloudNatix will continue to monitor and optimize Co-op Tohoku's AWS infrastructure as migration expands and more VMs are lifted from on-prem to AWS.

Learn more

CloudNatix is building a Planet-Scale Cluster Management Platform as a Service to help enterprises achieve the next generation of scale, efficiency and automation while operating VMs and cloud-native workloads distributed across clusters and multiple clouds, including on-premises environments. It connects to existing or greenfield Kubernetes clusters, cloud accounts and vSphere environments to pool the federated set of resources and uses machine learning to automate Autopilot workloads and infrastructure to drive capacity and human efficiency. More at www.cloudnatix.com



To learn more about about how CloudNatix can be your partner in the journey to Cloud, Cloud Native and beyond, go to www.cloudnatix.com.

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