JetBrains extends security with Cisco Stealthwatch Cloud on AWS

About JetBrains

Founded in 2000, JetBrains is a company of “developers building developer tools for developers.” These tools help developers work faster by automating common repetitive tasks, enabling them to focus on code design. Their high-profile offerings include award-winning tools such as:

- IntelliJ IDEA – An Integrated Development Environment Software (IDES) solution designed to increase Java developer productivity
- TeamCity – A team tool that enables developers to build, check, and run automated tests on servers before changes are committed—keeping the code base clean at all times

Currently, JetBrains supports large companies, including Hewlett Packard, Milliman, Glassdoor, and Quest Software, as well as many small-to-medium sized businesses. More than five million developers in over 200 countries around the world trust tools created by JetBrains.

- Customer: JetBrains
- Size: 700+ employees
- Industry: Software
- Location: Prague, Czech Republic

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When JetBrains migrated to Amazon Web Services (AWS), it realized it needed a solution to combat security risks. After all, how could the company detect suspicious activity without the ability to see who and what was operating in and connecting to its AWS environment? JetBrains IT staff knew they would need visibility, anomaly detection, and an easy way to get alerts on suspicious activity across their AWS environment.

The solution

JetBrains chose to deploy Cisco Stealthwatch® Cloud. Fortunately, the company was already using Cisco® Stealthwatch Cloud to secure its on-premises data centers and trusted the solution. The next step was to extend that protection to its AWS environment.

Since deploying, this solution has helped JetBrains outsmart emerging threats in its cloud environment. By gaining visibility into everything that touches its AWS instances and continuously monitoring behavior, JetBrains gets automatic alerts when suspicious activity is discovered. Here’s how it works:

1. **Stealthwatch Cloud ingests AWS log information.** When it detects something unusual, such as data exfiltration to an unknown location, it alerts the security team automatically.

2. **The solution identifies this suspicious activity based on behavioral modeling.** Stealthwatch Cloud creates a baseline of normal behavior for network devices and cloud resources. It then detects abnormal and known bad behavior.

3. **This self-learning security solution continually refines its behavioral models as it monitors an environment, ultimately improving its functionality.** This helps increase staff efficiency and reduces the costs required for manual security checks and updates.

4. **Automatic alerts make the security team more efficient and effective, and since Stealthwatch Cloud consistently delivers accurate alerts—with 95 percent of security alerts rated as "helpful" by customers—the JetBrains team does not waste time chasing false alarms.
When JetBrains implemented Stealthwatch Cloud, it quickly discovered suspicious activity that it was unable to detect previously. Stealthwatch Cloud found internal resources that were connecting to malicious external sites, as well as external scanning of some of the company’s AWS instances. Stealthwatch Cloud automatically alerted the JetBrains team, who were able to see and stop the threats before their environment was further compromised.

JetBrains has had a tremendous experience working with Cisco. In addition to security efficiency, Stealthwatch Cloud has helped the company monitor for violations and verify compliance with AWS guidelines and EU’s General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Next steps

JetBrains has been impressed with the ease of deployment of Stealthwatch Cloud. The solution was implemented in a matter of weeks, quickly scaling to the needs of JetBrains in its data center and in the cloud. In addition, the Stealthwatch Cloud team has been very responsive, answering questions and troubleshooting as needed.

The JetBrains team benefits from Stealthwatch Cloud’s convenient user interface, and plans to combine the company’s multiple AWS accounts into a single interface on Stealthwatch Cloud. JetBrains is also working on enhancing its Stealthwatch Cloud experience by automating the provisioning of AWS CloudTrail to provide even more robust protection for its workloads in the cloud.

Interested in learning more about Stealthwatch Cloud?

Get started with a 60-day free trial in the AWS Marketplace.