



Automates provisioning of highly secure cloud infrastructure



Helps make government technology competitive with the industry



Reduces IT costs by centralizing cloud management and monitoring



Gives government CIOs the ability to more effectively communicate the value of IT

# SAIC Helps Modernize Government IT with Secure Hybrid Cloud Management

When your largest client is the U.S. government, you have to be very good at what you do. A systems integration firm dedicated to helping government clients modernize IT systems and manage cybersecurity risks, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) strives to be the best in the business. The stakes are high: Unlike the private sector where damage from cyberattacks is usually financial, the federal sector has much more to lose because of national security. As government organizations move their applications from legacy mainframes to private and public clouds, security and cost management are top of mind.

To help manage national cybersecurity threats, SAIC uses VMware vCloud Suite for its own private cloud operations as customer zero and for key government customers. Based on a VMware Validated Design™, SAIC's enterprise cloud services leverage the hybrid cloud management capabilities of VMware vRealize Suite to speed infrastructure delivery, and use micro-segmentation with VMware NSX Data Center to help keep government networks more secure. In the near future, SAIC will use VMware Cloud on AWS to give customers an easy way to rapidly extend on-premises VMware environments to public cloud.

SAIC provides information technology, system integration and e-business solutions to customers worldwide. These solutions include big data and analytics, cloud computing, cybersecurity, IT-managed services, networks and communications, and software and mobility services.



SAIC is a technology integration firm dedicated to helping government clients modernize IT systems and manage cybersecurity risks.

## INDUSTRY

Government Services

## HEADQUARTERS

Reston, Virginia

## VMWARE FOOTPRINT

- VMware Cloud™
- VMware vCloud Suite®
- VMware vSphere® 6.7
- VMware vRealize® Suite
- VMware vRealize Automation™
- VMware vRealize Operations™
- VMware vRealize Log Insight™
- VMware vRealize Business™ for Cloud
- VMware vRealize Suite Lifecycle Manager™
- VMware NSX® Data Center Advanced



### The challenge

The U.S. government has more than 7,000 critical infrastructure applications, many running on mainframes and legacy infrastructure. As more of these applications move to cloud environments, governance and security are absolutely critical.

“Our government customers want to leverage the same hybrid cloud capabilities that leading businesses are adopting to optimize application performance,” says Matt Livingston, VP platforms, SAIC. “Cloud governance and security are key priorities for SAIC customers, and we need to support that with modernized infrastructure that accelerates their journeys to the cloud while optimizing workflows with consistent cloud management tools across disparate platforms.”

Government is also moving away from traditional capital planning and investment control toward technology business management, which requires CIOs to more effectively communicate the business value of IT to other executives, particularly the CFO. To meet this need, SAIC must give customers better visibility into cloud cost management by helping them automate cloud cost analysis, consumption metering, cloud comparison and planning.

### The solution

Already a VMware customer, SAIC decided to refresh its own infrastructure as customer zero, using vCloud Suite to support a hybrid cloud model. By bringing together the VMware vSphere hypervisor with the vRealize Suite cloud management platform, vCloud Suite allows SAIC to automate provisioning in its private cloud and across major public clouds, such as Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure and Google Cloud Platform. By predefining and preconfiguring resources and services embedded with security policies according to templates that meet government security standards, SAIC can significantly improve time to market both internally and for customers.

“Most SAIC customers use vSphere as their primary virtualization platform,” says Livingston. “The direction that VMware is taking,

with intrinsic security features baked into its solutions, aligns with our goals to deliver excellence in cybersecurity and regulatory compliance.”

SAIC also deployed NSX Data Center for network virtualization and micro-segmentation, which are key capabilities needed to defend the U.S. from cybersecurity threats. The combination of VMware vRealize Automation and NSX Data Center allows for the automated deployment of network-based security policies to counter rapidly changing security threats. While vRealize Automation and NSX Data Center are both powerful solutions when used on their own, together they allow SAIC to build more secure cloud environments with just a few clicks.

“SAIC continually partners with government clients to enhance services and fortify protections around the nation’s most critical information assets,” says Livingston. “NSX Data Center provides automated, intrinsic security in combination with software-defined networking capabilities that are essential to protecting against the ever-changing cyberthreats that confront our nation and our customers.”

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MATT LIVINGSTON  
VP PLATFORMS, SAIC

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To provide its customers with the most reliable enterprise cloud services, SAIC certified its software-defined data center (SDDC) as a VMware Validated Design. This reduces risk by helping ensure software interoperability and consistent configuration between the virtualized servers, network and other components.

“SAIC’s next-generation data center was built on a VMware Validated Design, which underwent a rigorous testing and validation process,” says Livingston. “Due to our direct collaboration with VMware leadership and technology teams, and the knowledge we’ve gained, we can offer a very high level of expertise and rigor as we help our customers along their journeys.”

## Business results and benefits

With hybrid cloud automation and provisioning, SAIC helps make government technology competitive with the private sector, offering customers a cloud management platform to broker and oversee the delivery of cloud services. SAIC and its customers can now provision resources and entire platforms that meet all applicable government security standards within minutes.

“VMware solutions give SAIC a competitive edge. We are able to address customer needs more quickly by leveraging the automation, rapid provisioning and self-service features that VMware delivers,” says Livingston.



By using NSX Data Center to provide a software-defined fabric for delivering virtual security appliances and virtual networking, SAIC can now explore new opportunities to provide enhanced security services to the government.

“With NSX Data Center, we gain new ways to address threats,” says Livingston. “By putting machine learning and artificial intelligence in the data center fabric, and interfacing it with NSX Data Center, the network can react to cyberthreats much faster than methods that require more manual intervention.”

Moving applications to a hybrid cloud based on VMware will also enable centralizing management and monitoring for SAIC’s customers, helping them reduce IT costs and spend taxpayer dollars more efficiently. VMware vRealize Business for Cloud

will provide the data they need to better understand cloud costs and make the appropriate investments to get the most out of cloud services.

“vRealize Business for Cloud helps provide the reporting and data visualizations that government CIOs need to talk to the CFO about cloud cost planning and optimizations,” says Livingston.

## Looking ahead

In the future, instead of the U.S. government having thousands of applications with their own supporting infrastructure, SAIC envisions a nation that will have thousands of configurations running on just a handful of platforms. As a result, the government will be able to put more energy into its mission and worry less about the distractions of managing IT services. As more government agencies look to extend their VMware environments to public cloud, SAIC will use VMware Cloud on AWS to make hybrid cloud a seamless reality.

“VMware is already a fundamental part of the nation’s IT infrastructure. VMware Cloud on AWS builds on a legacy of efficiency and agility to accelerate cloud migrations,” says Livingston. “It’s exciting to have powerful tools that reduce friction as we help our government clients achieve milestones on their cloud journeys, while delivering value that benefits us all.”



**@SAICinc helps government customers adopt more secure, enterprise cloud services with #VMware.**