



Better cost control and monitoring



Granular insights of the AWS environment



Increased accountability and confidence

## How CloudHealth Enables Thales DIS' FinOps Strategy

Thales Digital Identity and Security (DIS) is a multifaceted enterprise, providing IT and security services for IoT government programs, banking, mobile encryption, and biometrics. Jean-Jacques Morris, FinOps Manager, Cloud Center of Excellence (CCoE) at Thales DIS, presented at the CloudHealth by VMware® AWS Cloud Financial Management Workshop, sharing best practices for developing a FinOps strategy with CloudHealth.

### Journey to the cloud

Thales DIS began its journey to the cloud after recognizing the benefits of Amazon Web Services (AWS), which allows flexibility of the public cloud in terms of costs and diversity of services. The team quickly moved a dozen legacy solutions to AWS by lifting and shifting, the main objective being to keep customers happy while respecting the service-level agreement.

After implementing AWS, Thales DIS found it was difficult to control cloud costs. Within its Cloud Center of Excellence (CCoE) team, the FinOps team was created and tasked with controlling and monitoring the costs of the public cloud, but the cloud providers' native tools they were using were not able to answer all of their needs.

## THALES

Thales Digital Identity and Security (DIS) is a multifaceted enterprise, providing IT and security services for IoT government programs, banking, mobile encryption, and biometrics. Thales DIS provides solutions, services, and products that help customers fulfill their critical missions by placing humans at the heart of the decision-making process.

### INDUSTRY

Technology

### LOCATION

Paris, France

### VMWARE FOOTPRINT

CloudHealth by VMware

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The team soon recognized the need for a comprehensive cloud management platform to attain visibility into the growing cloud environment and to implement cost optimization practices.

### Implementing CloudHealth

Thales DIS chose CloudHealth by VMware for its ability to centralize costs and implement its FinOps strategy. “CloudHealth answered all our needs in terms of performance, cost, and the user-friendliness of the tool. It was important for us to have one tool that could centralize cost visibility across our different cloud environments,” shares Jean-Jacques Morris, FinOps Manager, CCoE at Thales DIS.

Thales DIS shared CloudHealth’s data with its technical teams to demonstrate how to accelerate its business transformation. “By providing the right reports and tooling to show results, we changed the mindset of senior leadership,” Jean-Jaques Morris shares.

### Thales DIS' FinOps strategy

There are three main prongs of Thales DIS' FinOps strategy: monitoring, optimizing, and forecasting. Within each prong, CloudHealth offers specific capabilities that help it to realize its goals:

- Monitor: month-to-date costs, daily average costs, unusual trends
- Optimize: set alert thresholds, establish tagging best practices
- Forecast: estimate future needs, purchase discounts

Thales DIS can control and monitor its monthly budgets much more easily with CloudHealth. The solution alerts Thales DIS when thresholds are met, allowing the team to make adjustments before surpassing their budget. Thales DIS also works with its internal security team to identify potential threats or misconfigurations and ensure tagging rules are followed.

CloudHealth’s rightsizing tool analyzes Thales DIS’ usage and easily identifies potential optimizations for EC2 instances. CloudHealth then provides recommendations to downgrade or upgrade those instances and sends reports to project managers so the appropriate action is taken. “Each report makes decision-making simple and directs stakeholders to take action on the recommendations,” Jean-Jaques Morris highlights.

Thales DIS also leverages CloudHealth’s Reserved Instance (RI) and Savings Plans (SP) recommendations. CloudHealth provides granular RI recommendations based on historical usage that helps optimize future costs. The solution also summarizes the costs and benefits of six different *Compute Savings Plans* after a user sets their desired cost savings, coverage, or hourly commitment.

Thales DIS uses a CloudHealth report that categorizes its EC2 ecosystem by operating system, allowing the team to make cost-effective decisions about moving development environments to the cloud. The report shows optimized cost by region, ensuring all customers are accommodated and happy.

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JEAN-JACQUES MORRIS  
FINOPS MANAGER  
CCOE  
THALES DIS

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Another key feature Thales DIS leverages is budget forecasting. Thales DIS’ key business stakeholders need to know where costs will be incurred in the future. CloudHealth collects 13 months of past usage data to predict future costs, allowing Thales DIS to easily forecast total cloud costs for future quarters.

“Together with CloudHealth, we are producing impressive business results. It is a tool that’s very complimentary to FinOps — they can’t exist without one another,” Jean-Jaques Morris shares.



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@ThalesDigiSec implements #CloudHealth by @VMware to centralize costs and implement its #FinOps strategy

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