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CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT SPECIAL

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20 Most Promising Configuration Management Solution Providers 2017

With projects becoming increasingly complex and the companies looking for high levels of agility, Configuration Management (CM) has become more significant than ever. In order to leverage various benefits of the CM process, enterprises across industries are moving toward automating them by integrating advanced CM tools for project management. This integration is an easier way of altering configurations, without compromising on the core objectives of the project. The idempotent nature of CM tools coupled with the CM databases embedded in them, has simplified the process of both changing and tracking of configuration items for impact analyses.

Today's CM tools have driven competition with open source and enterprise versions hitting the market. On the other hand, with myriad prebuilt configurations and features,

enterprises have taken CM to the new level. CM in cloud helps in synthesizing product configurations, without compromising on security. It keeps companies from incurring costs and IT secure.

Companies are today looking for advanced CM tools that would help them to build a framework for greater information management with well-ordered systems in place, keep them up to date. In order to assist them in the process, a distinguished panel, comprising of CEOs, CIOs, analysts, and the CIOReview editorial board, has reviewed companies with a proven record of expertise in helping enterprises with high-end CM solutions. The panel has weighed the ease of use, cost of deployment, and the ability to scale with next generation technology, above all else, while choosing the finalists.

We present to you the 20 Most Promising Configuration Management Solution Providers 2017.



Company:
RedLock

Description:
Provides a security platform that enables enterprises to visualize, monitor, and investigate risks across cloud infrastructure

Key Person:
Varun Badhwar
Founder & CEO

Website:
redlock.io

RedLock Securing Dynamic Cloud Infrastructure



Varun Badhwar

In today's fast paced business environment, companies are adopting public cloud infrastructure such as Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud Platform to increase efficiency, agility, and productivity. However, it is challenging to secure these environments due to the rapidly increasing volume of cloud workloads and their ephemeral nature. "In order to truly secure cloud infrastructure, organizations must embrace solutions that automate security to be able to keep up with constantly changing cloud environments. Configuration management of cloud workloads is an important component of these solutions but also requires analysis of additional factors for a holistic view," says Varun Badhwar, Founder and CEO, RedLock.

Based in Menlo Park, CA, RedLock provides organizations with the most comprehensive view of their cloud infrastructure security posture. The platform automatically discovers cloud

infrastructure changes via APIs and correlates configurations, user activities, and network traffic to build a dynamic network graph. RedLock then applies machine learning to generate risk models and further enriches them with data from external sources such as threat intelligence feeds, vulnerability scanners, and SIEMs. With this holistic view, RedLock is able to accurately quantify risk with a score and help organizations prioritize active threats. "Existing solutions on the market are missing key components such as network traffic analysis and external data source integration, creating blind spots. Moreover, our API-based approach provides greater scalability as compared to agent-based solutions," notes Badhwar.

The RedLock platform is prepackaged with policies that adhere to security best practices for cloud workloads established by the Center for Internet Security (CIS), making policy management a simpler task. It also supports the creation of custom policies and continuously monitors for policy violations. The dashboards provide real-time visibility into the security and compliance posture of the cloud environment. The RedLock platform's graph intelligence enables security teams to rapidly perform incident investigations. The network graph automatically highlights malicious activity, making it a breeze to prioritize active threats. Drilling down on the graph provides a view of time-serialized activity, enabling teams to view the history of changes and better understand the root cause on an incident. "Security teams can respond to risks by sending alerts, orchestrating policy, or performing auto-remediation," states Badhwar.

In one of the implementation highlights, a number of development

teams at a multinational software corporation were leveraging AWS for hosting critical applications. The client's security team had no visibility into the cloud environment. The security team had built a custom application for Splunk, which ingested AWS VPC logs, but it was too cumbersome for them to correlate the massive volumes of data and extract actionable insights. Also, the sheer volume of the ingested logs significantly increased their Splunk costs. The security team was able to deploy RedLock in minutes. The platform immediately began collecting data from the environment to identify the types of workloads running in these environments, their related configurations, and corresponding risks. The client's security team gained real-time visibility across the organization's entire AWS environment, monitored for policy violations, and performed on-demand incident investigations to detect anomalous activity.

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With RedLock, security teams can automate cloud infrastructure security and keep pace with DevOps

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RedLock already has a number of patents pending and plans to continuously broaden the scope of the functionalities offered by its platform. "Our goal is to expand support from AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud Platform to additional public cloud platforms. We are also continuously adding new policy sets based on popular industry compliance mandates as well as integrating with additional external data sources," concludes Badhwar. [CR](#)