AWS State, Local, and Education Learning Days

North Carolina



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Building and governing your cloud environment

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Cloud governance

is the set of rules, practices, and reports that help you align your cloud use to your business objectives



Why do we need a strong cloud governance



Cloud maturity, adoption over time



Cloud governance best practices



Best practice 01 Controls and guardrails

Use accounts as building blocks

Use accounts as building blocks

Controls and guardrails best practice | 01



Why use multiple AWS accounts?

when single account is no longer scalable for your business



Multi-Account

AWS Control Tower: A self-service solution to automate the setup of new AWS multi-account environments



Landing zone foundation of AWS Control Tower





Best practice 02 Identity

Apply the principle of least privilege



Managing access permissions to AWS accounts

Identity best practices

01



IAM Identity Center



AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM)



AWS Organizations

aws

Restrict access to the management account

- **02** Require MFA for users with elevated access
- **03** Require human users to use federation with an identity provider to access AWS using temporary credentials



Security Best Practices in IAM

Establish a centralized identity provider for human identities

Federation via Third-party identity providers

Native identity (AWS IAM Identity Center)

AWS Account







AWS IAM Identity Center can be used if you have no plans to use a third-party identity provider and need to setup identity federation.



Best practice 03 Network connectivity

Define a network strategy



Design your network strategy

Network connectivity best practice | 03





Best practice 04 Security

Align control objectives to a security framework

Shared responsibility model



Use AWS services to mitigate threats



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What is Amazon GuardDuty?



Amazon GuardDuty is a threat detection service that uses **machine learning**, anomaly detection, and **integrated threat intelligence** to identify and prioritize potential threats.



What is AWS Security Hub?



AWS Security Hub is a cloud security posture management service that **continuously** performs security best practice checks and **seamlessly** aggregates security findings from AWS and third-party services and enables automated response.



Automated, continuous best practice checks



Consolidated findings across AWS services and partner integrations



Standardized findings format and cross-Region aggregation



Standards aligned to regulatory and industry compliance frameworks



Automated response, remediation, and enrichment actions





Best practice 05 Security

Use controls to protect security baselines and identify misconfigurations



Detective

Detect resources that violate your defined security policies

COMPLIANT

NONCOMPLIANT

Control types



Preventive

Disallow actions that would lead to violations of your security policies

ALWAYS COMPLIANT



Proactive

Scans resources before they are provisioned, blocking provisioning if resources aren't compliant

APPROVED RESOURCES ONLY

ALWAYS COMPLIANT





Best practice 06 Cloud Financial Management

Enable mechanisms for cost governance

Build your Cloud Financial Management portfolio



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Key takeaways



Use accounts as building blocks



Protect security baselines and stop cloud risks



Apply the principle of least privilege



Continuously monitor and test control effectiveness



Design your network strategy



Build your cloud financial management portfolio



Align control objectives to a security framework



Define a tagging strategy and enforce tagging



Using Innovative Documentation-as-Code Approach for the Georgia Department of Human Services System Security Plan



CHALLENGE

Manual, time-consuming process of creating and updating System Security Plan (SSP) Word/PDF documents to meet federal compliance requirements. They needed a better, more automated approach. SOLUTION

Collaborated with AWS Professional Services to develop "documentation-as-code" approach for creating and maintaining the SSP's. Used logging and monitoring layer on Amazon CloudWatch, which collects and visualizes near-real-time logs, metrics, and event data in to streamline infrastructure and application maintenance. Used AWS CloudTrail to monitor account activity AWS and provide audit trails. Used AWS Config to monitor overall security and configurations of the organization's resources

OUTCOME -

- Created SSP for the Document Imaging System application within 16 weeks
- Audit trails of changes to the SSP were improved, with visibility into who made each change, when, and why.
- The new approach streamlined the process of creating, updating, and tracking changes to the System Security Plans.

Additional resources



Organizing Your AWS Environment Using Multiple Accounts



AWS Services for Security, Identity and Compliance





Thank you!

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