News UK Manages Cloud Spend and Improves Governance with CloudHealth

News UK, a subsidiary of News Corp., has published newspapers for more than 200 years and has more than 10 million readers. Headquartered in London, News UK publishes The Times, The Sunday Times and The Sun, with a mission to “tell the stories that matter.”

**News UK Faces Cloud Challenges**

An Amazon Web Services (AWS) customer, News UK, has evolved with the media landscape. It now runs all its digital properties in the cloud, with the ability to scale elastically on-demand as landmark events and news trigger massive influxes of online registrants. With the power of the public cloud, News UK can quickly scale up to meet demand, and back down once the need passes.

“Agility came at a price. When we entered the digital world, we didn’t have a good view into our cloud spend,” says Russell Bradford, Cloud Platform Manager at News UK. “All finance saw at the end of the day is a bill, and the bill was rising every month. We wanted to give them better visibility, but the growth of our AWS environment showed no signs of slowing. We have 60 accounts! People here always want to innovate, spin up instances, and move to the next project.”

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**40% Cost Reduction**

News UK saved 40% on monthly cloud spend by managing their RIs with CloudHealth

**1,000 EBS Volumes**

The amount of unattached EBS volumes CloudHealth helped News UK discover, resulting in huge savings

**Infrastructure Optimization**

Granular utilization data helps News UK easily identify instances that need rightsizing
Finding a Solution

News UK partnered with CloudHealth by VMware to gain better visibility into cloud spend across their entire infrastructure. With a holistic view of their cloud ecosystem, they can see “which accounts are spending what, and where spend is increasing.”

“CloudHealth tells us which environments can be shut off outside business hours, saving us more per month.”

RUSSELL BRADFORD
Cloud Platform Manager, News UK

The team uses CloudHealth to discover unattached EBS volumes, receive recommendations on rightsizing, manage Reserved Instances (RIs), and for security functions such as setting policies and alerts.

The Results

CloudHealth helps News UK do the following:

Identify and eliminate zombie instances
The team discovered more than 1,000 unattached EBS volumes that weren’t in use, but still incurring cost.

Optimize Reserved Instances
“Reservations are complex,” admits Russell. “People end up fearing them because of that.” News UK saved 40% on its monthly cost by managing RIs with CloudHealth, and uses automation to make continuous modifications.

Get rightsizing recommendations
News UK had challenges with knowing which EC2 instances were underutilized. With CloudHealth, they can easily see instances that can be rightsized or downsized.

Enforce centralized governance
Now the team can hold groups accountable for cloud spend, and effectively track and manage changes across the environment. They even automate lights on/off schedules for non-production infrastructure: “CloudHealth tells us which environments can be shut off outside of business hours, saving us more per month.”

1,000
CloudHealth helped News UK discover 1,000 unattached EBS volumes and achieve 40% cost savings by purchasing Reserved Instances.

Learn how CloudHealth can transform the way your organization operates in the cloud.