



CASE STUDY: **PARTYLITE** WORLDWIDE

MEETING MIGRATION

DEADLINES AND COMPLIANCE STANDARDS

The world's #1 party planning and candle company, PartyLite Worldwide, is a multimillion dollar e-commerce business operating in 21 countries. To improve the flexibility and global scale of its infrastructure, PartyLite migrated the vast majority of its applications to Amazon Web Services (AWS).

However, due to an unplanned closure of their datacenter provider, PartyLite needed to accelerate the migration project to meet a tight 30 day deadline.

PartyLite's Technology Director, Sandra M. Duphily, approached managed service provider and AWS Premier Partner Logicworks to build, automate, and manage their AWS environment. To maintain PCI DSS compliance, PartyLite selected Alert Logic security-as-a-service solutions for both intrusion detection and log review.

"By trusting cloud management and security to Logicworks and Alert Logic, our engineering team can continue to focus on delivering great applications to our global customers," said Duphily. "Together, Logicworks and Alert Logic are not only enabling PartyLite to meet and exceed our security and compliance objectives on AWS, but we are also able to realize the true cost and agility benefits of Amazon Web Services."



PARTYLITE

ABOUT

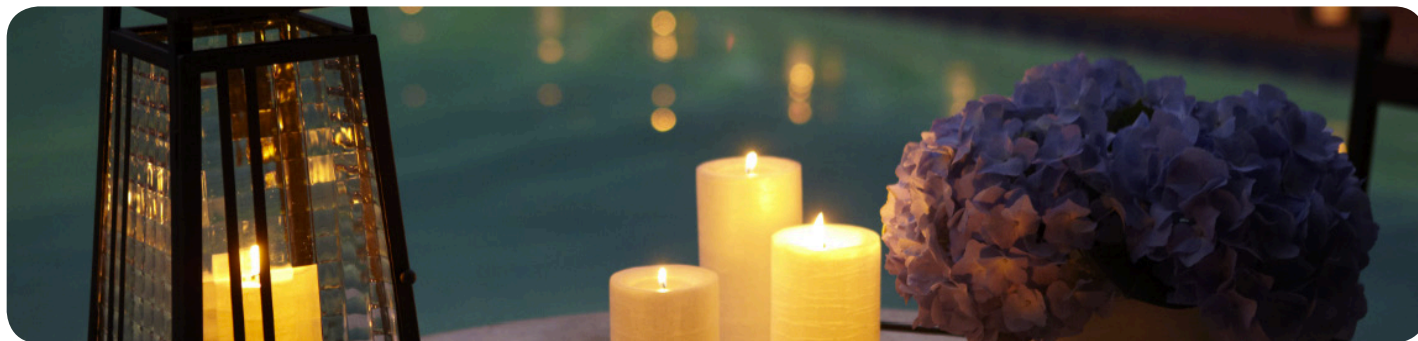
PartyLite, the world's #1 party planning company, sells candles, candle holders, flameless fragrance, wax warmers, and holiday and home décor in 21 countries online, and through nearly 52,000 independent PartyLite business entrepreneurs.

SOLUTIONS

Logicworks Managed AWS Services: Cloud strategy, development, automation and support

Alert Logic® Threat Manager™ with ActiveWatch: Managed intrusion detection and vulnerability scanning system

Alert Logic® Log Manager™ with LogReview: Managed daily log review service



COMPLIANCE AND SECURITY IN THE CLOUD

While AWS provides excellent networking and security services, additional tools and an experienced engineering team are required in order to meet PCI requirements. By outsourcing these requirements, PartyLite has been able to meet migration deadlines and compliance standards.

“We feel very confident that our environment meets PCI-DSS requirements,” says Duphily. “Logicworks educated us on the requirements of PCI compliance in AWS, and Alert Logic not only provides the critical elements of intrusion detection and human log review, but also proactively identifies compliance risks.”

Logicworks and Alert Logic collaborated to create a comprehensive runbook and incident plan. “We know that if anything should ever happen, we have an expert security team collaborating with a team of AWS experts to immediately protect our environment,” said Duphily. “PartyLite is very selective in our choice of security tools. Alert Logic cloud native security management solutions give us enterprise-grade controls without having to devote precious engineer hours to manual security and patching tasks.

“TOGETHER, LOGICWORKS AND ALERT LOGIC ARE NOT ONLY ENABLING PARTYLITE TO MEET AND EXCEED OUR SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE OBJECTIVES ON AWS, BUT WE ARE ALSO ABLE TO REALIZE THE TRUE COST AND AGILITY BENEFITS OF AMAZON WEB SERVICES.”

- Sandra M. Duphily, Director

SECURITY AUTOMATION AND AGILITY

PartyLite uses AWS' Auto Scaling feature to expand or reduce its compute capacity in the case of increased demand or the unexpected failure of a single instance. While this is an important capability of the AWS platform, configuring AWS to spin up new resources at the right time—and with the right configuration and security tools—is a complex task.

Logicworks' engineers relied on deep expertise in using automation and configuration management tools to build custom templates of PartyLite's environment, so that new cloud resources could be created, bootstrapped, and deployed with the most recent version of application code and minimal stand-up times. These resources are automatically configured to meet PartyLite's security and compliance requirements, eliminating the risk that an engineer or developer could “accidentally” launch non-secure or non-compliant resources.

“An important part of improving agility is reducing our developers' manual effort and firefighting,” Duphily said. “By outsourcing to Logicworks to automate our infrastructure build-out and deployment pipelines, we not only reduce the risk of our engineers making a mistake, but we reduce repetitive, manual tasks and improve the speed at which IT can deliver new features.”

Overall, this process presents new opportunities to business leaders to integrate with IT leaders, leading to improved product lifecycles and more agile responses to market changes. “Our staff is less stressed, our infrastructure and business applications are safer, and the overall risk to our business is reduced,” said Duphily. “We look forward to growing our business with Logicworks and Alert Logic as we continue to iterate new technology offerings.”