Self-Service Start & Stop of Workloads on AWS

Challenge

Enterprises need more control over their systems to stay agile

Controlling costs is one of the main drivers for enterprises choosing to run their workloads in the Cloud. One very direct and obvious way to control costs is to shut down any systems that are not in use. If the timing of the use of the system is known in advance, then a schedule-based start/stop is sufficient. But, if the timing is unpredictable, then ad-hoc start/stop operations or ad-hoc changes to the respective start/stop schedules need to be performed. Further, if every one of these ad-hoc requests requires a service request to the service provider, then the customer's agility is significantly impeded.

The Lemongrass Solution

Be more agile in the Cloud with the LCP Self-Service Portal

Lemongrass Cloud Platform (LCP) has a self-service portal that provides customers the control they need to start and stop their systems as needed. Through a simple user interface, portal users can perform ad-hoc start and stop of EC2 instances and applications like SAP, change the timing of start/stop schedules or deactivate/reactivate start/stop schedules. In addition, with the platform's audit feature, users can continuously monitor and audit the history of these activities as needed.

Benefits

The LCP Self-Service Portal gives users control over their managed systems and removes the need for service requests, immediately enhancing business agility.

- ✓ No need to raise a Service Request to start or stop a system
- ✓ No need to raise a Service Request to deactivate or reactivate a schedule
- ✓ No need to raise a Service Request to change a schedule's timing
- ✓ Ability to view audit trails for start/stop actions at any time

Why Lemongrass

Lemongrass is experienced in building and managing enterprise workloads on AWS. Using smart tools to optimize business continuity, costs, and security, Lemongrass seamlessly migrates workloads to AWS and, if requested, manages these systems in the Cloud delivering the expected agility while maintaining enterprise-grade SLAs.

Lemongrass Cloud Platform

The Lemongrass Cloud Platform (LCP) is a governance, monitoring and automation solution that leverages proven methods and Best Practices for Onboarding to AWS Cloud services and enables optimized operation for SAP and other workloads. What could take years to automate in-house can be done with a click of a button with LCP.

Start/Stop Automation Features

EC2 Instance List with Start/Stop Function: The EC2 instance list provides the self-service user with an easy-to-use overview of all EC2 instances that are configured for self-service. The portal displays the run status of each instance, the IP address, and provides a start/stop button. With LCP, applications are automatically stopped when an instance is shut down by the self-service user and automatically resume upon the start of the EC2 instance.

Alert-Muting for EC2 Instances: EC2 instances that are managed by Lemongrass are centrally monitored. To prevent false alerts, EC2 instances shut down by a self-service user are automatically excluded from monitoring until they are started again.

Schedules List: The Schedules List provides an easy-to-consume overview of all schedules that are exposed for self-service. Users can deactivate or reactivate (resume) schedules or change their timing. With the "run-now" button, a scheduled action can be executed immediately.

Schedule Runs: The Schedule Runs feature lists of all actions performed by the scheduler.

Audit Logs: The Audit Log shows the user which action has been performed, at what time and by whom.

Case Study: Logistics and Supply Chain Business

Challenges:
A leading Australian logistics and supply chain business was looking to optimize costs and drive more efficiency into their business by running their SAP systems in a more responsive and agile manner.

Solution:
Through LCP, the customer was able to shut down systems not in use and restart them as needed. In addition, they were able to monitor the activity to ensure that systems that were started were also stopped when they were no longer needed which helped to drive out unnecessary costs.

Results:
The customer is now more self-sufficient when it comes to the start and stop of their SAP systems and other applications reducing the number of service tickets and improving their agility.