



## Partners

MicroStrategy and Cloudera

**The Customer** This customer, an agency of the U.S. Federal Government (The Agency), oversees a complex network of military systems around the world. For decades, The Agency has been a critical component of ensuring global stability – maintaining a defensive posture and projecting strength in the face of insecurity.

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## The Uphill Challenge

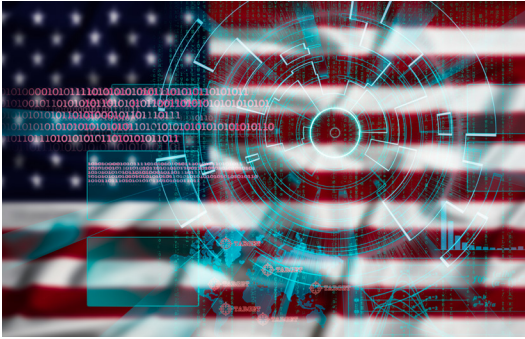
Over several decades, The Agency had amassed and relied on a variety of disparate data systems to carry out its mission. These isolated, departmental data siloes limited leadership's ability to maintain a 360-degree view of operations and core KPIs across the organization. With no centralized system for reporting, it was difficult and expensive to develop management-level reporting tools, and there was no way to enrich intelligence by blending in data from external sources. Also, due to the sensitive nature of The Agency's data, strict security and governance protocols posed unique challenges.

## The Precise Solution

To solve these challenges, The Agency selected a team of specialized vendors to provide cutting-edge technologies and expertise: **MicroStrategy, Cloudera, Talend, and a MicroStrategy partner**. The partner was chosen to design, architect, and deploy a customized enterprise data management and analytics solution. To minimize the costs of maintaining long-term data logs, and because of the multi-structured nature of the data, project managers chose to use Cloudera's Hadoop-based government enterprise data hub as the new data storage and management system. Talend's data integration technology was deployed to simplify and accelerate ETL processes. Together, these two solutions constitute the infrastructure to acquire, consolidate, and store data across the organization. MicroStrategy was deployed as the overarching BI standard to provide world-class analytics and data governance capabilities.

Project managers chose MicroStrategy because it features a Cloudera Connector and tight technology integration that lets users query and interact with data stored in Hadoop as if it's just another data warehouse. By providing the ability to perform sophisticated analytics in an intuitive, visual interface, MicroStrategy enables teams across The Agency to analyze a variety of large data sets — structured, unstructured, or otherwise — in a matter of clicks. Armed with powerful advanced analytics, users can run regression analyses, employ predictive functions, and use rich data discovery tools to determine performance metrics, operational costs, and productivity benchmarks.

"Looking for a lasting solution, (The Agency) was less concerned about specific pain points and more interested in being able to take any of its data – no matter the type – and use it for department or project-specific needs," stated the Chief Technical



### Before MicroStrategy

- With no centralized data solution, The Agency could not access the full extent of their information in a timely, secure manner.
- Data was spread across multiple locations and siloed in structured, unstructured, and semi-structured environments.
- Creating reports was time-consuming and resource-intensive.

### Goals

- Create a custom enterprise data and analytics service to maximize the value of The Agency's data in pursuit of its mission and objectives.
- Develop the capacity to store and access five years of log data.
- Adhere to all federal regulation regarding information assurance and data protection as well as access control requirements.

### After MicroStrategy

- Can use an enterprise-wide solution to analyze large datasets.
- Can ensure the integrity of data governance across The Agency's network.
- With an optimized IT infrastructure, The Agency is prepared to contend head-on with future challenges.

Architect. "Their goal was to create a centralized point of BI flexible enough to tackle present, as well as future challenges."

Given strict US Government and Department of Defense data protections and access control requirements, data governance was critical. MicroStrategy's sophisticated, multi-level security features ensure that information is protected and accessible only to authorized users. Combined with Cloudera's underlying security and governance framework, this powerful technology solution is able to meet the demanding standards of a national security agency.

### The Bottom Line

With its IT infrastructure optimized to secure and manage large amounts of data of all types, The Agency uses the MicroStrategy platform to provide critical business intelligence that was previously unavailable. Agency leadership uses this secure, scalable, and flexible solution to make essential enterprise-level decisions that ultimately result in improved performance. Integrated with existing infrastructure, The Agency is able to operationalize data like never before and drive unprecedented value across the organization.