Pythian Client Case Study

CLIENT
TinyCo

INDUSTRY
Entertainment/Media

TECHNOLOGIES
MySQL®, Cassandra™, Rackspace®, Amazon® Virtual Private Cloud (VPC), Vertica cluster

BUSINESS NEED
TinyCo needed to focus on handling the mounting workload associated with getting new games to market, leaving no time to manage their complex data infrastructure.

SOLUTION
Round-the-clock expert support and a next-generation, highly scalable architecture from Pythian.

RESULT
3x increase in performance, zero downtime migration from Rackspace to Amazon VPC, and reduced licensing costs.

PYTHIAN HELPS TINYCO EXPAND OPERATIONS GLOBALLY

TinyCo is the San Francisco-based mobile gaming powerhouse responsible for app store chart-toppers like Tiny Monsters, Tiny Village, and Tiny Zoo Friends. Their games consistently reach the top-grossing charts on the iTunes, Google Play, and Amazon, often maintaining top positions for months or years. Their games have been downloaded more than 85 million times worldwide.

BUSINESS NEED
In the intensely competitive mobile gaming sphere, staying ahead isn’t just about developing the latest and greatest game—it’s about getting to market first and keeping a grip on consumers’ imaginations. With the popularity of its games soaring, TinyCo needed to focus on handling the mounting workload associated with launching new games and cope with their expansion from a small shop to a company of more than 100. They didn’t have time to manage their data infrastructure, which required more connectivity and support than traditional gaming platforms.

“Pythian has been an extension of our team. I can spend eight hours researching an obscure problem or call them and they’ve probably encountered it before and can fix it. They provide us with that depth of expertise on a dime and we’ve been able to lean on them for maintenance and operation support.”
— Bo Shi, Software Engineer, TinyCo
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SOLUTION

One of Pythian’s roles was to manage TinyCo’s MySQL and Cassandra cluster, providing TinyCo with a next-generation architecture. To address their connectivity needs, TinyCo wanted a more efficient process, with fast, simple, cost-effective storage, easy scalability, and integration. They wanted a Vertica cluster at Amazon to host their business intelligence database. Pythian selected the OpenVPN Access Server as a VPN gateway and created a site-to-site VPN between Rackspace and Amazon, and deployed a Vertica cluster at Amazon.

While TinyCo had used larger database companies in the past, their impersonal, help-desk-style service meant anyone from TinyCo calling in for support had to retrace technical details every time. Pythian’s expertise and dedicated team engagement model fit TinyCo’s needs.

RESULT

Thanks to Pythian’s expertise and support, TinyCo’s new infrastructure delivers more capacity, better scalability, improved performance, and easier manageability through a new web-based interface. TinyCo was also able to reduce their licensing costs with OpenVPN Access Server and enhance security from site-to-site VPN.

ABOUT PYTHIAN

Pythian is a global leader in data consulting and managed services. Since 1997, we have specialized in planning, deploying, and managing business-critical data systems for large and mid-market enterprises. Learn more about Pythian and its elite teams of data experts at www.pythian.com.

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