Improving DevOps Maturity on Google Cloud

PA Consulting provided Google Cloud expertise and worked with Smyths Toys to apply a DevSecOps approach to the build, management, and security of their e-commerce infrastructure to meet a huge growth in online retail during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The challenge

During the COVID-19 pandemic, online sales accounted for the majority of Smyths Toys' business. It was more important than ever for Smyths Toys to support its customers online. With its e-commerce platform running on Google Cloud, Smyths Toys had good Google Cloud knowledge to respond to high demands but there were more that could be done to improve performance and efficiency.

The solution

Smyths Toys were early in their DevOps transition. PA assessed and introduced new processes to use infrastructure as code and VM images to automate the entire build, code analysis and deployment. A new GCP infrastructure was created for the e-commerce platform with a tech stack of Compute Engine, Kubernetes Engine, FileStore, Virtual Private Cloud, Cloud Nat, Cloud Shell, Security Command Center.

The results

With automated deployment and software release, Smyths Toys were able to accelerate environmental builds with regular deployments. This had significantly reduced the time to market for new features and improved operational efficiency. The new Google Cloud infrastructure gave Smyths Toys a high performance system that provides expansion and capability well into future.

> **"** PA doesn't just understand the Google Cloud Platform. They know how to use its full functionality to solve business problems and add value. **"**
>
> Rob Wilson, CTO, Smyths Toys

About SMYTHS TOYS HQ UNLIMITED COMPANY

Smyths Toys is a family owned Irish multinational retailer of children's toys and entertainment products. With over 200 shops throughout UK, Ireland, and Europe offering the largest range of the latest and greatest products in toys, baby, outdoor and gaming, Smyths Toys is dedicated to encouraging learning and developing creativity in children.
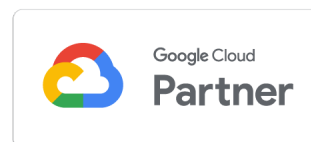
Industry: Consumer Packaged Goods

Primary project location: United Kingdom

About PA Consulting Services Ltd

Multi award-winning Google Cloud Premier Partner specialising in cloud migration, application development, data analytics, and machine learning.

Products

Google Cloud Platform