

OKERA ENABLES F500 FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANY TO EXPAND ITS DATA PLATFORM BY SECURING ACCESS TO DATA AT SCALE

Executive Summary

This Fortune 500 company is a leading financial services company with over a trillion dollars in assets and a global presence in over 100 markets. It had a tight deadline to provide secure data access to its data science and analytics teams.

The company deployed Okera's Active Data Access Platform (ODAP) to provide secure access control for analytics workloads running on an Amazon S3 data lake. Through doing so, it was able to reap the following benefits.

OKERA BENEFITS

- Fine-grained access control at the row, column, and even cell level
- Dynamically obfuscation to protect sensitive data and comply with regulatory requirements
- Data governance with detailed reports on data access patterns
- Interoperability with existing applications such as Collibra
- Quick deployment and a long-term technology partner that aligns with the company's roadmap.

Challenge

Highly regulated industry creates barrier to offering data-driven personalized services

The financial services industry is highly regulated with many existing and newly emerging data privacy regulations. In order to stay competitive, this company leverages its own very large behavioral datasets, social media data, and a rich set of credit history data to create personalized offerings and ultra-detailed views of credit risk.

Trust is the most important asset for all financial services companies. While the company prepared to launch a new service on the AWS cloud, it wanted to be certain that it could provide fine-grained access control and data security, as the default access controls are insufficient.

Solution

Automated fine-grained access control that integrates with the existing data platform

After a comprehensive trial period, it became clear that Okera's data access control platform would integrate well with their corporate identity system that leverages SAML. Okera is extensively used for data registration and integrates with the company's CI/CD (continuous integration and continuous development/delivery) environment to automate data access control.

The company uses dynamic data masking to protect sensitive data and comply with regulatory requirements. Creating policies for fine-grained access control is easy with the Okera visual policy builder, while still allowing more experienced data stewards the flexibility to use SQL commands as needed.

Okera's comprehensive support for Collibra, the enterprise data catalog, along with a wide variety of analytical tools and frameworks including Python, R, Amazon Sagemaker, and JupyterHub, made it a desirable solution. The ability to deploy into production within a span of three months was another winning factor. Most importantly, the company has found a leading technology partner that aligns with and can adapt to the company's roadmap.

"Okera gave us the confidence that we can protect our customers' data with the required granularity for each of our applications and users. Their flexibility and speed to respond to new feature requests gave us confidence that they will be a good partner to work with."

HEAD OF DATA ARCHITECTURE, F500 FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANY

Results

New service offering with built-in secure data access and flexibility

Okera provided an agile way for the company's data engineering team to offer fast, responsible access to its data users in order to develop and customize the new service offering. The Okera system, being independent of the cloud platform, will enable compatibility with the company's existing analytics applications and allow quick onboarding of other analytical and machine learning workloads. The company was able to future-proof its data platform while maintaining differentiation in the market.

ABOUT OKERA

Okera enables the management of data access and governance at scale for today's modern cloud data lakes. Built on the belief that companies can do more with their data, Okera's Active Data Access Platform (ODAP) enables scalable fine-grained data protection and visibility on data lakes for both structured and unstructured data. This allows agility and governance to co-exist, giving data consumers, owners, and stewards the confidence to unlock the power of their data for innovation and growth. ODAP can be implemented and deployed in less than a day, creating immediate value for enterprise organizations. Okera is headquartered in San Francisco and is backed by Bessemer Venture Partners, ClearSky Security Fund, and Felicis Ventures. Learn more at www.okera.com or contact us at info@okera.com

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