A Large University – Migrating existing on-premises Shibboleth SAML CAS Identity Provider to Elastic SSO Cloud hosted managed service, with zero downtime.

Elastic SSO Cloud delivers a fully-managed, enterprise-grade, high-availability, secure single sign-on service hosted in the AWS Cloud.

Challenges:

Customer's IT team had been successfully operating a Shibboleth SAML CAS identity provider (IdP) service on-campus for a number of years. The IdP service on-premises supported 36 Shibboleth/SAML Service Provider (SP) Apps and 25 CAS client Apps. The IdP leveraged existing Campus IAM system (based on Active Directory/LDAP) for authentication and attributes.

Customer needed an enterprise-class, cloud hosted, fully managed, federated single sign-on (SSO) service to address the following challenges:

100% Shibboleth compliance.

Customer needed a managed cloud SSO service that was fully Shibboleth compliant. This means, the cloud service not only supported SAML2 and CAS SSO standards but also supported different Shibboleth profiles. This would ensure smooth transition from on-premises Shibboleth to a cloud hosted service without any downtime.

100% InCommon Federation compliance.

Customer's existing Shibboleth IdP on-premises is already integrated with the InCommon Federation. InCommon represents thousands of Education focused entities and SaaS vendors. So, it was imperative that the cloud hosted SSO service is fully compatible with InCommon to avoid disruption and downtime.

Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) support.

Customer wanted to use MFA with cloud SSO system for authentication with a subset of SAML SP Apps for Students.

Hybrid-Cloud support.

Customer wanted to keep their mission-critical user-data in the enterprise IAM infrastructure on-premises, and continue to use it for SSO authentication and attributes.

Solution:

Customer selected 9STAR's ElasticSSO Cloud Service because it met Customer's key requirements:

- Zero-downtime. ElasticSSO Cloud service provided an easy path for Shibboleth IdP migration from on-premises to the Cloud with no downtime.

- Shibboleth and InCommon Federation compliance. ElasticSSO is built on the Shibboleth middleware and therefore provided 100% compatibility with Shibboleth and InCommon federation.

- MFA Support. Customer was able to successfully integrate MFA for SSO authentication which could be triggered based on certain business rules.

- Local/Regional Cloud hosting and compliance. ElasticSSO was cloud hosted in customer's local region of choice. This helped in compliance with local privacy and data laws.

- Leverage existing IAM. ElasticSSO Cloud service was able to leverage existing on-premises IAM for authentication and attributes.

Results:

- Customer was able to outsource Shibboleth SAML CAS Identity Provider hosting and management to 9STAR's ElasticSSO Cloud service.
- Customer did not need to move or make changes to their existing IAM system on-premises. ElasticSSO cloud was able to leverage the existing IAM on-premises for secure authentication and attributes for SSO access to Cloud Apps.
- Customer did not experience any outages or downtime even after a year of operation in the Cloud.
- All new app integrations into the Cloud SSO system were accomplished and managed by 9STAR's expert IT support staff.
- Customer's IT department was able to bring in significant cost savings as a result of migrating the Shibboleth IdP to the Cloud. Adopting ElasticSSO Cloud service freed up their existing valuable manpower and resources for other important IT projects.

"9STAR's ElasticSSO Cloud Solution has proven to be a reliable and cost-effective system. 9STAR's team migrated our Shibboleth IdP to the Cloud in less than two-weeks with no downtime. Their after-sales support and cost-savings have been great. "

Chief Information Officer

About the Customer

Customer is a large, US-based, public university with more than 15,000 students, staff and alumni.

Solution Deployed

- 9STAR's Elastic SSO Cloud Service. More info at https://bit.ly/2uhndmT

Systems Integrated

- 55+ Shibboleth, SAML and CAS Service Provider Apps.
- InCommon Federation.
- Existing On-Premises AD/LDAP for authentication and attributes using LDAPS.
- Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) using Cisco Duo Security.
- Firewalls, Secure VPN, Intrusion detection and prevention systems.

About 9STAR

9STAR is a rapidly growing and recognized market leader in providing enterprise-grade secure federated identity and access management software solutions for enterprise customers. Our software can be provisioned on-demand in the cloud or on-premises. Our solutions are in use in Higher-Education, Non-Profit, Government and mid-market SaaS, healthcare, retail, financial services and energy sectors.

9STAR
Secure Single Sign-On Cloud Solutions

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