

Peruvian Air Force Ensures Private Cloud Application Availability with Thunder ADC

Network Solution

A10 Thunder ADC

Critical Issues

Ensure the availability and security of administrative and operational applications supporting the Peruvian Air Force

Results

- Ensure high availability and security of applications in a private cloud, such as collaboration, data analytics, and cybersecurity
- Deliver fast, reliable application experiences to 18,000 military personnel
- Established long-term partnership for secure application availability



Company

Peruvian Air Force
(Fuerza Aérea del Perú)

Industry

Government

" Our experience with Thunder ADC is availability and versatility. The speed and implementation of Thunder ADC and ease of administration are incredible."

Luigi Rivas,

Lieutenant Colonel Peru Air Force,
IT Project Leader



Introduction

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are critical to support the Peruvian Air Force (Fuerza Aérea del Perú, or FAP) as it defends the nation and its interests through airpower. To modernize its ICT systems in support of its national defense mission, FAP Information Technology Service built a private cloud.

Challenge

“The data center has marked an important milestone in the modernization and use of IT in the Peruvian government,” says Lieutenant Colonel Peru Air Force, IT Project Leader Luigi Rivas, “FAP is the first government entity to implement the cloud computing model through the production of a specifically engineered solution for the private cloud.”

“The new data center has allowed us to consolidate our entire compute infrastructure and cybersecurity into a single environment,” says Rivas.

With cyberattacks the new electronic battlefield, the private cloud also enables critical cyber defense capabilities, including a new cyber threat monitoring center.

FAP’s private cloud was built using best-of-breed technologies. Constructing a new data center facility meant the entire technology stack had to be selected and deployed, including applications for communication, collaboration, business intelligence, and databases as well as infrastructure such as networking, backup, storage, security, load balancers, and cybersecurity.

“Constructing the data center was a very complex project where everything had to operate like clockwork,” says Rivas. “Each manufacturer provided a technology solution that fit our requested requirements, which were carefully analyzed, taking into account the products’ features and the manufacturers’ vision and philosophy.”

Selection Criteria

FAP needed to ensure that applications in its private cloud were highly available with responsive, low-latency performance to empower 18,000 personnel to deliver on their mission objectives.

“Understanding the capabilities of a product and the manufacturer’s vision and philosophy of where it is going is critical,” Rivas says. “All the products show the best of themselves, but for me, the deciding factor is that a manufacturer works every day to improve the product, understands what the customer wants, and grows their business. Their salespeople should not see you as a cold number, but must communicate the passion and message of their manufacturer.”

FAP undertook an open and fair public sector bid process for its private cloud. A10 Networks fit FAP’s stated requirements for secure application delivery and load balancing.

Solution

Finally, after a rigorous process of selection and acquisition, A10 Networks' high-performance Thunder® Application Delivery Controller (ADC) advanced load-balancing solution became part of FAP's private cloud. Thunder ADC ensures FAP's administrative and mission-critical applications are highly available, accelerated, and secure.

"I am passionate about technology, and I worked with different top vendors, in the analysis and designing process of my architecture, based on its different solutions, but above all, the most important for me was to understand its philosophy as a manufacturer of IT technology," says Rivas.

"A10 Networks' salespeople and system engineers helped us understand the potential of the product," he continues. "We determined that Thunder ADC should be one of the purchase options because it met our needs for our application delivery controller and load balancing needs. A10 sales and engineering teams were always available for any question I asked."

To ensure applications are highly available in support of both administrative and mission-critical operations, Thunder ADC delivers complete, full-proxy Layer 4 to Layer 7 load balancing. High-performance SSL offload enables an optimized and secure application service. Content caching, compression, and TCP optimization expedite content transfer for enhanced application performance.

Results

"Our experience with Thunder ADC is availability and versatility," says Rivas. "The speed and implementation of Thunder ADC and ease of administration are incredible."

Thunder ADC ensures efficient and reliable application delivery for FAP personnel, enhancing

the user experience by minimizing latency for a broad range of applications, from collaboration services and data analytics to training and cybersecurity.

FAP's private cloud provides IT services and supports the mission of protecting the Air Force IT infrastructure. It has been especially vital during the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. With a state-of-the-art ICT facility, FAP Information Technology Service could expand its own mission by offering IT services to other branches of the Peruvian Government. This would be the first such shared IT service model in the Peruvian Government.

"I am convinced that every government entity must not only establish a return on social investment, but also it must generate income to self-sustain the operation and maintenance of the services it provides," says Rivas.

Success and Next Steps

The Peruvian Air Force's digital transformation project took four years due to its sophistication and mission criticality. "It was like writing a book," says Rivas. "My own motivation encouraged me to continue development of the project. I always kept in mind that what I start, I finish. Now, I am proud of finishing."

Looking back at his experience building the government's first private cloud, Rivas advises his peers: "Bear in mind that the majority of the solutions on the market generally meet the minimum requirements for operations, but it is very important to analyze the manufacturer's vision of where they want to position their product."

"IT projects are successful only when the systematic and comprehensive approach of what you want is clear," he says.

About the Peruvian Air Force

The Peruvian Air Force (Fuerza Aérea del Perú, or FAP) defends the nation and its interests through airpower. FAP also assists in safeguarding internal security, conducting disaster relief operations, and participating in international peacekeeping operations.

About A10 Networks

A10 Networks (NYSE: ATEN) provides secure application services for on-premises, multi-cloud and edge-cloud environments at hyperscale. Our mission is to enable service providers and enterprises to deliver business-critical applications that are secure, available and efficient for multi-cloud transformation and 5G readiness. We deliver better business outcomes that support investment protection, new business models and help future-proof infrastructures, empowering our customers to provide the most secure and available digital experience. Founded in 2004, A10 Networks is based in San Jose, Calif. and serves customers globally.

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Part Number: A10-CS-80212-EN-01 APR 2021