

iomart delivers a secure cloud platform to meet UK Government regulatory compliance for Exostar

POLICIES

COMPLIANCE

STANDARDS

REGULATIONS

SUMMARY

iomart delivers a secure cloud platform that supports Exostar's solutions to meet the UK Official Sensitive classification and 14 Cloud Security Principles.

BENEFITS

- Bespoke and secure cloud environment
- Compliant for UK Government Official Sensitive classification
- Meets UK Government's 14 Cloud Security Principles
- Dynamic, high-performance, scalable on demand platform



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Girish Maheswar, Senior Product Manager, eSourcing for Exostar

The Challenge

Exostar is a leader in identity access management and secure enterprise cloud solutions that mitigate risk and improve collaboration, information sharing, and supply chain management. Headquartered in Virginia in the United States of America and with its own US data centres, Exostar partnered with iomart in 2012 to build a bespoke private cloud platform in the UK.

Exostar's customer needed a shared cloud environment that would meet the security requirements of the UK Official Sensitive classification for a procurement solution it was delivering.

To address this critical need, Exostar extended its relationship with iomart in 2016 to have its solution recognised as Official Sensitive (OS) compliant. Exostar chose iomart for two reasons. One was prior successful joint experience. The other was iomart's track record of operating to the highest industry standards. iomart is the most ISO accredited cloud hosting company in the UK and has also incorporated new international codes of practice for dealing with sensitive information. It is also PCI DSS compliant.

■ The Approach

Two requirements served as guiding principles for the iomart/Exostar solution approach. First, all sensitive data stored and accessed for Exostar's customer had to remain within UK sovereign territory. Second, iomart worked closely with Exostar to provide evidence that demonstrated solution compliance with the UK Official Sensitive classification.

Exostar and iomart collaborated throughout the process to ensure the result not only met these constraints and requirements, but also the UK Government's 14 Cloud Security principles. The team had to understand and account for the implications of all of these principles, which include: Data in Transit Protection; Asset Protection and Resilience; Separation between Consumers' Governance Framework; Operational Security; Personnel Security; Secure Development; Supply Chain Security; Secure Consumer Management; Identity and Authentication; External Interface Protection; Secure Service Administration; Audit Information Provision to Consumers; and Secure Use of the Service by the Consumer.

■ The Solution

iomart's CloudSure platform proved it could meet all of Exostar's requirements. Delivered from iomart's Tier 3 data centre facilities, CloudSure is highly-available, scalable and resilient. It carries CESG accreditation for private cloud, private community cloud and public cloud services. It also is certified for PSN Connection Compliance and PSN Service Provision.

The CloudSure deployment for Exostar includes a mix of physical and virtual servers across two of iomart's UK data centres to support live and development/testing environments. The project was complex and involved data and application migrations by Exostar across these environments.

To best account for all security and compliance requirements, the solution includes a double layer of security with separate multi-vendor firewalls providing front-end and back-end protection. iomart's private, dark fibre network provides low-latency connectivity.

Girish Maheswar, Senior Product Manager, eSourcing for Exostar, says, "With iomart's partnership, we were able to strengthen our infrastructure model within the UK, enabling us to provide various solutions that meet UK Government regulatory compliance, and deliver the value our customers have come to expect from Exostar."

■ The Results

Utilising CloudSure from iomart enabled Exostar to quickly grow and scale the new platform with the knowledge that the solution was secure, compliant, and compatible with its pre-existing secure network infrastructure and solutions. This new platform is now being used by Exostar customers as a direct enabler for their Supply Chain collaboration where all procurement-related communications between the Buyer and Suppliers will be transacting in a system that can securely route UK Official Sensitive demarcated documents.

The success of the above project provides a foundation for expanding Exostar's footprint within the UK. Exostar is now able to offer a lean SaaS model for enterprise customers within the UK, for whom compliance with UK Official Sensitive classification, security and risk management are important for their Supply Chain collaboration.

■ About Exostar

Exostar is a leader in identity access management and secure cloud solutions that improve collaboration, information sharing, and supply chain management.

Its cloud-based solutions help companies in aerospace and defence, life sciences, and healthcare mitigate risk and solve their identity and access challenges.

Exostar was recognised by leading industry analyst firm Gartner Inc. in its report "Cool Vendors in Procurement and Sourcing Technology, 2016."

For more information about Exostar visit <https://www.exostar.com/>