cloudvane

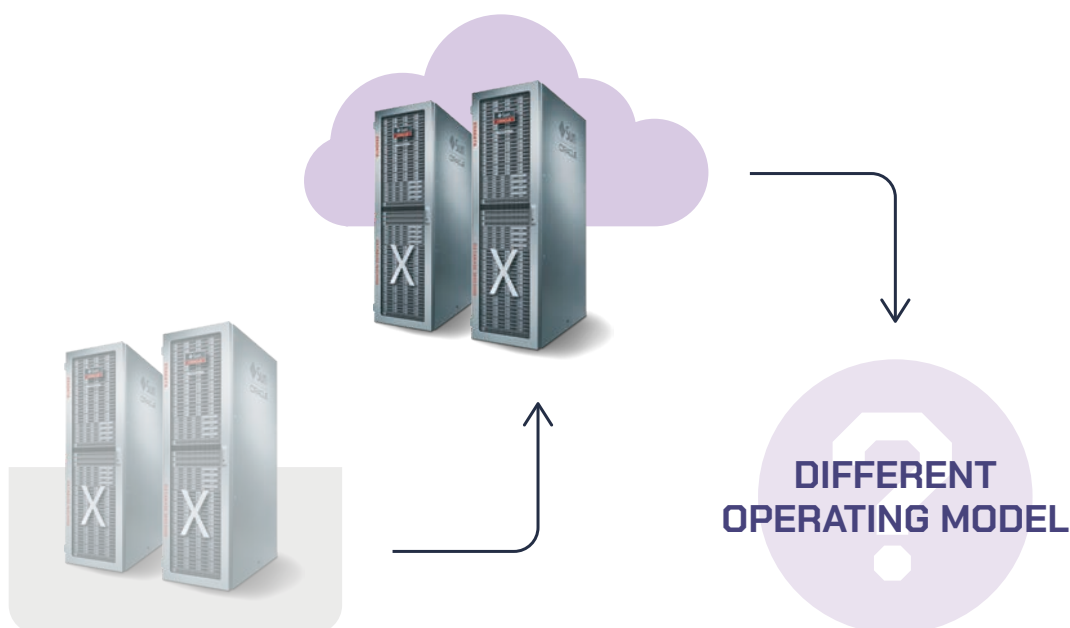# Getting more out of your Cloud@Customer investment

CloudVane in the banking segment

CHALLENGES

The business requirements of our client from the banking sector, combined with new government regulations and the switch in national currency to Euro, required the elasticity and scalability of environment that was impossible to meet without adopting the scalability and elasticity of cloud.

However, an analysis regarding data sovereignty, compliance and regulatory requirements revealed that public cloud is not a viable solution. Cloud@Customer provided a suitable solution, enabling the scalability and elasticity of their Datawarehouse system. This solution satisfied all customer's requirements and solved data sovereignty, compliance and regulatory requirements at the same time.

Autonomous Database is the one that supports scale up and scale down of databases. However, Autonomous Database on Cloud@Customer is supported only as a baremetal installation with no multi-tenant environment. Since the customer has a highly complex environment with many separate environments, they decided to go in production without the Autonomous Database, and left it to CloudVane to manage scale up and down and start or stop of databases.

DIFFERENT OPERATING MODEL

CHALLENGES

While their new governing model provided a solution to their business requirements, it also brought forth a new set of challenges. For one, new environments are needed on weekly basis. Secondly, governing different versions and the deployment of new instances is time consuming and prone to human error due to repetition and overwhelming scale of administrative tasks. Consequently, following challenges were identified:
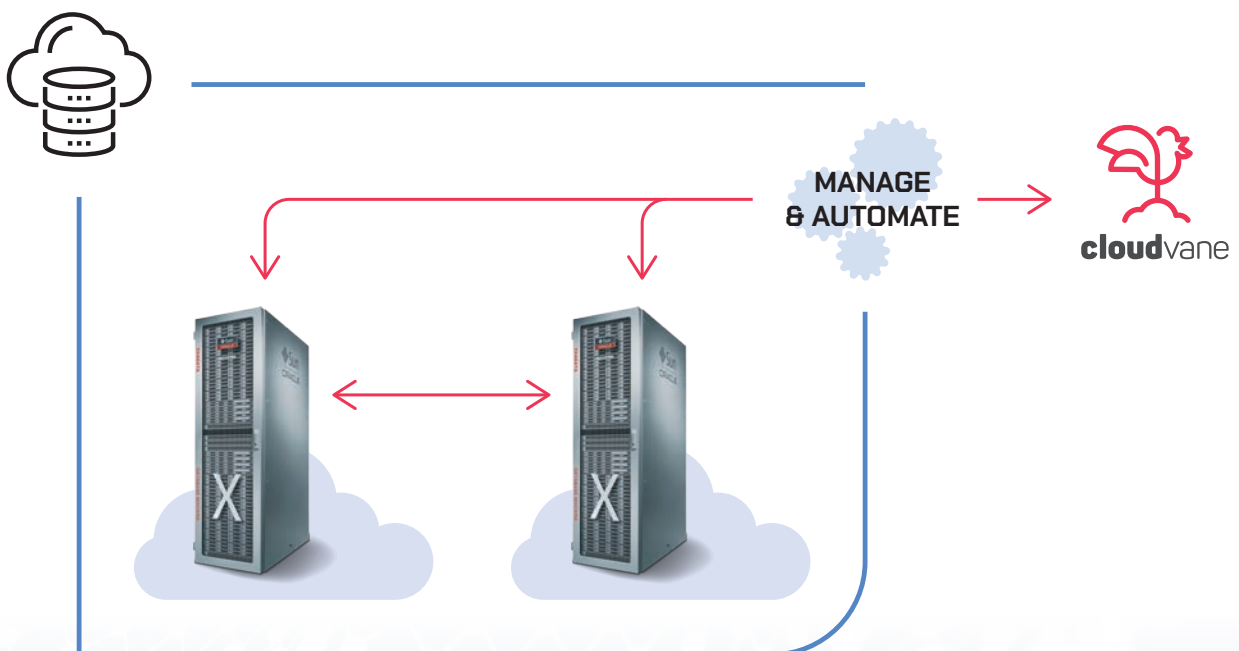
- Proper budgeting of cloud credits for the following year
- Mapping cloud spend to responsible business owners
- Define and match budgets in cloud with assigned budget for each business unit
- Managing new environment with a limited number of team members and almost no time for enablement
- Automating starting and stopping of databases based on a schedule
- Automating scaling down and up of instances based on utilization

SOLUTION

IMPLEMENTING SAAS SOLUTION FOR CLOUD COST MANAGEMENT AND AUTOMATION

In our mission to help our long-time customer, we advised the implementation of Cloud Financial Management (FinOps) from the very start of their cloud journey. This will prevent overbudgeting and mismanagement of cloud resources, an ache quite common with enterprises that migrate to Cloud without implementing cloud cost management processes as well. (6 Ways Cloud Migration Costs Go Off the Rails, Gartner)

With the limited number of team members, little time for enablement and other restrictions, the smartest method of implementation was by using our proprietary SaaS solution CloudVane. This tool, driven by FinOps, enables organizations to easily implement this methodology into their business processes.

CloudVane provided an out-of-the-box solution for new challenges the client was set to encounter in cloud. Instead of reacting only when cloud costs get out of hand and they start receiving large invoices they did not expect, they opted for CloudVane, which will prevent these issues from occurring in the first place.

MANAGE & AUTOMATE

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HOW CLOUDVANE MANAGES CLOUD CHALLENGES

Prediction makes budgeting easy

CloudVane offers several features that enable accurate long-term planning of resources, such as budgeting. Accurate budgeting can be done effectively if you start with a good prediction. This is where CloudVane steps in, with its predictive module that provides accurate forecasting of future spend, which in the end enables customers to create and track budgets on multiple scopes and time ranges.

Mapping cloud spend to responsible business owners

Organization Hierarchy in CloudVane enables the client to build an organizational structure using a simple graphic interface. Then they could easily map resources to specific organization groups, teams, projects or even applications for accurate reports and spend mapping.

Define and match budgets in cloud with assigned budget for each business unit

IT budgets are usually centrally planned. IT resources that are procured use that budget until the budget is spent. That leads to an enormous IT budget that is not mapped to the business owner that requested said IT resources. Mapping IT resources cost to responsible business owners makes it feasible to transfer cost to the business owner instead of to general IT. This leads to the increase of business owners' responsibility and better planning of resource utilization.

Limited number of team members and little time for enablement

CloudVane's Automations provide the tools for managing and automating the entire environment, and the enablement for using the tool is quick and simple. Furthermore, CloudVane's GUI is intuitive so it can be operated easily, which allowed the client to be in full control off their Cloud@ Customer environment within days.

Scheduled start/stop of databases

When an environment is running, it is generating cost, whether you are actively using it or not. CloudVane enables the customer to group non-production environment and then simply schedule the group to turn-off in non-working hours. In that way customer managed to save more than 50% of budget for non-production systems.

Scaling instances up/down based on utilization

CloudVane collects utilization data from the control plane and uses that data to scale down or up databases based on utilization of resource.

Using the preproduction server as an example, it must be sized same as the production environment to provide proper environment for stress testing. During non-working hours, these environments are not used. As they must run 24/7, start/stop is not an option. However, it possible to live scale down the system to a smaller size and pay less during non-working hours. Then, before the workday starts, the preproduction environment is again scaled up to full performance.

Versioning different environments

To solve the issue of versioning different environments, and to improve the speed at which new environment are delivered, we implemented the versioning and provisioning of new environments through CloudVane Automations. It uses Infrastructure As a Code scripts to quickly deploy the version of the database that is needed by the customer.

BENEFITS

BENEFITS OF USING CLOUDVANE IN CLOUD@CUSTOMER ENVIRONMENT

After implementing CloudVane, the client reported several benefits to their cloud operations:

1. **Budget thresholds** track cost on both predicted and actual spend for every business unit, which alerts the client via email when the consumption reaches a predefined percentage level of threshold.

2. Every **cloud consumption is mapped to a responsible business owner**. With Cloud@Customer, it is possible to map 100% of cloud consumption to responsible business owners as there are no network and other charges that are usually more difficult to map.

3. Implementing CloudVane enabled the customer to automate regular administrative tasks and **keep the same size of the team while increasing the number of managed environments**.

4. Keeping the **Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)** under control by using automations on non-production environment and mapping cloud spend to responsible business owners.

5. **Shortening the time for provisioning databases and mitigating the occurrence of human errors** using infrastructure as a code orchestration for new and repeating environments.

ABOUT CLOUDVANE

CloudVane is a cloud cost management and automation solution that consolidates your multicloud cost and usage data. It enables overall visibility of cost so enterprises, organisations and start-ups can better manage their cloud resources through advanced automation and scheduling, cost allocation, recommendations, reports and other features.

CloudVane is rooted in FinOps, an emerging new practice area that brings financial accountability to the variable model spend of the cloud and helps enterprises master cloud unit economics.

By implementing FinOps methodology through CloudVane features, every customer is facilitated to introduce the best FinOps practices into their company or organisation in the simplest way possible.

CloudVane is part of the Oracle for Startups, a unique acceleration program that enables mutually beneficial business-building partnerships for startups, Oracle and their customers.