

CASE STUDY

Southern Company Successfully Migrates Their DLP Program to the Cloud

Southern Company

CLIENT PROFILE

Industry: Energy, gas, and electric utility company

Headquarters: United States

Size: Enterprise (28,000+ employees)

Use cases: Data protection, threat protection, cloud migration, and remote work

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Southern Company, a leading energy company, wanted to transition their DLP program to the cloud. They were already using DLP Core for their on-premises environment, and they wanted a more powerful CASB and an easy and effective way to manage their DLP policies in the cloud and for email. Symantec DLP Cloud was the perfect fit. With DLP Cloud they got immediate value from the single-policy construct to start managing their data across multiple channels and avoid policy duplication. Moreover, the level of granularity to monitor for compliance was invaluable. DLP Cloud was a perfect solution to ensure that they were able to solve their data and compliance needs as they migrated to the cloud.

Southern Company Drives toward Data Security in the Cloud

Southern Company has 9 million customers that are served by 28,000 employees operating from home, the field, and in the office. They generate, and need to secure a lot of data! As a regulated business, Southern Company strives to achieve high standards of security and compliance for all of their users and information handling processes. With so many of their users operating from home and outside the office, they needed to ensure that those standards were maintained.

Southern Company knows you cannot cut corners when it comes to data. They were very happy with Symantec® DLP for their on-premises environment, and they were keen to leverage the power of DLP detection and transition it to the cloud. Southern Company also needed a robust cloud security product. A product that increased visibility across their cloud apps, ensured compliance, and provided them with a comprehensive solution. The solution had to provide rich detection capabilities such as OCR in the Cloud, risk and user behavior analytics, and threat protection. Southern Company chose to make that move with Symantec DLP Cloud for the reasons described in the following sections.

Single DLP Policy: Extending the Same DLP Policies to the Cloud

Southern Company, a longtime Broadcom customer, was looking to transition their DLP program to the cloud. They struggled with other cloud based DLP solutions to replicate their policy needs. No vendor could do it without increasing load on the consumers of the data, whether the data was consumed on the Splunk side (different systems would have meant different indexes) or on the compliance side (their workflows). By deploying DLP Cloud and leveraging the capability of the DLP policy to extend the same policy, they were using on premises to the cloud and email, avoiding policy duplication, and reducing the load on the consumption of data.

DLP cloud was second to none in assisting with our compliance needs.

SOUTHERN COMPANY

ABOUT SOUTHERN COMPANY

Southern Company is a leading energy company serving 9 million customers. Their headquarters are in Atlanta, Georgia.

Customers and communities are at the heart of what they do. They lead with innovation in sustainable energy and deliver smart solutions that fuel growth and opportunity for their customers.

They have made their name as a leading producer of clean, safe, reliable, and affordable energy. Southern Company approaches each day as a vital step in building the future of energy. For more than five decades, Southern Company's world-class research and development organization has remained at the forefront of innovation. The organization's research portfolio spans technology development for energy production, delivery and use, and is facilitating the transition to a net-zero energy system.



Data Protection and Compliance at the Core

For Southern Company, ensuring the security of their sensitive data and ensuring compliance has always been a top priority. They recognized that the technology they had been using was not comprehensive and accurate enough for their requirements. They needed a change, and with the granular level of reporting detail and the compliance capabilities that are in DLP Cloud, they were able to do that with ease. According to Southern Company it was invaluable and second to none in assisting with their compliance needs.

Ability to Efficiently Focus on the Real Risks

Incident remediation was a focus for Southern Company, and they wanted to perform remediation in a more seamless fashion. The way they had previously performed incident remediation was inefficient and clunky with multiple consoles. With DLP Cloud and its UEBA capabilities, they were able to drown out the noise and focus on the real risk in an efficient manner. By applying adaptive access controls and continuous risk monitoring, they are able to strike a real balance between productivity and security, and quickly navigate through to understand the full context of a DLP incident.

Conclusion

Southern Company set out to migrate their DLP program to the cloud from the beginning. By choosing DLP Cloud they not only fulfilled that goal, they also got more capabilities without increasing workload, while improving business processes, and solving their compliance issues.

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