Executive Summary

LatentView Analytics built a cloud-based data lake and scalable data platform to enable advanced analytics and ad-hoc exploratory analysis enabling a cost savings of to $1 million annually in terms of subscription and data management.

Business Challenge

The client, an industry leader in US food logistics services, was challenged with outdated internal data systems and off-the-shelf solutions which were unable to scale up to meet the organizations growing data science needs. The current tools used were slower in performance and didn’t expose internals for detailed scrutiny and verification. As part of their digital transformation process, there was pressing need to extract, process and analyze data at scale to sustain and improve competitive advantage in terms of pricing, packaging, delivery and customer experience. The client wanted to remove dependency on the current third-party platforms that were not cost-effective or scalable to meet future data needs. Moreover, they needed a more transparent system to understand the computations behind their key business metrics and needed the flexibility to build newer metrics more rapidly.

Solution: LatentView Analytics built an advanced analytics serverless platform which minimizes and, in some scenarios, completely obliterates the need for infrastructure hyper care. A test-driven approach was undertaken to design the application interface and business logic to ensure all scenarios critical to user adoption was addressed. A three-phased approach was employed to migrate the users into the new platform:

Phase 1:
- Detailed review and analysis of requirements (data, infrastructure and operations)
- Reverse engineered key metrics & dimensions and instituted data operations & quality checks
- Base UI functionalities for ad-hoc analysis were exposed to business users for acceptance testing

Phase 2:
- Role based user access to functionalities and data
- Trending analysis, Year over Year analysis, Dynamic drill down and Rollups/cubes
- Custom metrics module for users to custom define computations
- Save user selections as reports for easy access

Phase 3:
- Share and collaborate on saved reports
- Scheduled reporting and massive data extracts module
- Configuration driven addition of additional business domains

About Sysco

Sysco Corporation (an acronym for Systems and Services Company) is an American multinational corporation involved in marketing and distributing food products, small wares, kitchen equipment and tabletop items to restaurants, healthcare and educational facilities, hospitality businesses like hotels and inns, and wholesale to other companies that provide foodservice (like Aramark and Sodexo). The company is headquartered in the Energy Corridor district of Houston, Texas.
Solution Highlights:
The entire solution is built using serverless components. We have automated code deployment using CI / CD workflow allowing us to seamlessly manage and collaborate across multiple teams and use cases. The data is processed every day and some of the key metrics that drives decision making are now documented and computed in-house. 300+ business users use the system every day and the userbase is expected to grow to 1000+ in the next 6 months with minimal or no manual change required to scale up the platform.

We delivered using CoE model. We custom trained the team to do advanced Python, SQL and Sophisticated AWS integrations. We organized our effort using JIRA and leveraged git for code, configuration and confluence for documentation. This allowed us to seamlessly collaborate with the client teams.

Business Impact:
After users were onboarded to the new tool, client is able to track and control utilization and performance in the most cost and time efficient manner saving ~1M dollars annually. Since we have adopted an automation first policy, the new platform has minimal maintenance overhead. Client is able to add data from new business domains and enable businesses with faster decision making.

About LatentView Analytics
LatentView Analytics is one of the world’s largest and fastest growing digital analytics firms. We help companies drive digital transformation by helping them combine digital and traditional data to gain a competitive advantage.