

Defense Innovation Unit Selects Google Cloud for Secure Cloud Management Implementation

Google Cloud chosen based on pioneering zero trust approach and strength in security

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Google Cloud announced today that the US Department of Defense's (DoD) Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) has selected Google Cloud's Secure Cloud Management (SCM) solution to implement organization-wide, setting the stage for potential broader adoption across defense agencies worldwide. The production contract award comes after DIU deployed [three separate, year-long prototypes](#) by Google and two other commercial vendors—with the goal of providing DIU with fast, secure, and controlled access to software-as-a-service (SaaS) applications directly over the internet.

Google Cloud's solution, which was developed in partnership with [Palo Alto Networks](#), embraces zero trust principles and the idea that implicit trust in any single component of a complex, interconnect system can create significant security risks. Google Cloud's SCM offering also aligns with the White House's [May 2021 Executive Order](#) and the recent [memorandum](#) by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget calling on the federal government to improve national cybersecurity. This SCM solution is available for acquisition by other DoD agencies, through Other Transaction Authority (OTA) agreements, as they adopt their respective zero trust plans.

The SCM solution is a container-based offering for secure application access and monitoring built on Google Cloud's [Secure Application Access Anywhere](#) offering. This open, standards-based solution will serve as a scalable, highly responsive alternative to DoD's current network boundary points. SCM leverages Google Cloud's [Anthos](#) to enable management of hybrid cloud and multi-cloud applications via [Kubernetes](#).

Palo Alto Networks VM Series and CN Series bring ML-Powered Next Generation Firewall capabilities directly inline to safeguard microservices-based applications—wherever they are deployed—and Prisma[®] Access provides endpoint inspection, authentication and remote access for applications protected by the Google Cloud SCM solution, helping secure access to DIU resources from anywhere.

"In today's new cybersecurity paradigm, it's critical that government agencies see the benefits of adopting a zero trust security strategy and have the option of selecting more modern, cloud native solutions that meet their unique needs," said Lynn Martin, vice president, North America Public Sector, Google Cloud. "We are honored to partner with DIU as the organization undergoes the next phase in its zero trust journey, as we believe other DoD agencies can benefit and learn from this security approach."

The Google Cloud SCM solution was evaluated by a third-party assessment organization based on criteria outlined by the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). During the assessment, 77 security controls were evaluated, including test cases relative to network, user, end device, data, and secure cloud management controls.

About the Defense Innovation Unit

The Defense Innovation Unit strengthens U.S national security by accelerating the adoption of commercial

technology throughout the military and growing the national security innovation base. DIU partners with organizations across the Department of Defense (DoD), from the services and components to combatant commands and defense agencies, to rapidly prototype and field advanced commercial solutions that address national security challenges. For more information, visit: <https://www.diu.mil/>.

About Google Cloud

Google Cloud accelerates organizations' abilities to digitally transform their businesses with the best infrastructure, platform, industry solutions, and expertise. We deliver enterprise-grade solutions that leverage Google's cutting-edge technology – all on the cleanest cloud in the industry. Customers in more than 200 countries and territories turn to Google Cloud as their trusted partner to enable growth and solve their most critical business problems.

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