DataStax Improves Performance by 59%, Optimizes Customer Experience With FusionAuth

DataStax mitigated outage risk, improved performance and strengthened password security

THE CHALLENGE

DataStax and the DataStax Academy provide expert training on Apache Cassandra and DataStax Enterprise. The resources include product downloads, training courses and certifications for any level from beginner to expert.

DataStax was using Stormpath for user authentication until it was acquired by Okta and suddenly shut down in 2017. With limited resources and a fast approaching deadline, they sought to find a replacement quickly.

Reducing the risk of a large scale outage was of utmost importance. Any downtime would result in significant financial loss, customer attrition and a damaged reputation. DataStax wanted to migrate off Stormpath with zero friction and no user password resets. They needed a trusted vendor that would not only deliver a secure solution, but wouldn't disappear leaving the company vulnerable to this risk again.

THE SOLUTION

DataStax's stringent latency requirements, need to migrate quickly without user interruption and hands-on transition support made FusionAuth an ideal choice.

To start the engagement, FusionAuth built a custom Stormpath Import Tool into the FusionAuth interface. This allowed DataStax to import user data directly from Stormpath without requiring additional steps, minimizing the time it took to perform an export and import. DataStax was able to repeatedly test the FusionAuth integration prior to the Stormpath shutdown date to eliminate the risk of a failed migration.

Industry - Big Data

Challenges
- Stormpath API was shut down
- DataStax Academy required user authentication for secure product downloads
- Could not risk a large scale outage during the migration

Solution
- Added the Stormpath Import Tool to the FusionAuth interface
- Converted the required Stormpath Drupal module to FusionAuth
- Implemented Application Authentication tokens

Results
- Reduced latency by 50% with API call reduction
- Improved overall performance by 59%
- Mitigated risk by completing the migration process in under 10 minutes

Once the Stormpath Import Tool was made available, DataStax required that the Stormpath Drupal module be ported to FusionAuth. By helping DataStax switch early, the risk of a large scale outage of a critical system was reduced to zero.

After launch, DataStax and FusionAuth worked closely together to further increase overall security of the DataStax Academy login. This was accomplished by providing a separate and secure, low latency token to authenticate user downloads. FusionAuth was able to implement Application Authentication Tokens in just days when other providers stated that the feature could not be added to their solutions.

THE RESULTS

By helping DataStax identify a 50% reduction in API calls to authenticate their users, FusionAuth was able to dramatically reduce latency.

With the reduction of API calls in combination with FusionAuth's modern, single-tenant architecture, DataStax was able to improve overall performance by 59%.

By selecting FusionAuth rather than building their own login system, a path many Stormpath customers resorted to, DataStax saved approximately 3 months of development time, costing upwards of $150,000.

FusionAuth provided a smooth transition and significantly improved performance, allowing DataStax to deliver product downloads to customers seamlessly.

"Our previous provider had about a 2.3 second load time. Now it's under 1.1 so it has literally been cut in half from our previous solution."

Arlen Thurber, Software Engineer, DataStax

50% ⬇

reduction in API calls

⬆59%

increase in performance

About FusionAuth

FusionAuth was designed and built by security and identity experts with over 50 combined years experience developing software for Fortune 500 companies. It installs in minutes and delivers Customer Identity and Access Management including login, registration, SSO, MFA, emails, localization, reporting and powerful user management features.

FusionAuth has been battle-tested in high-volume industries from finance to gaming and deployed on servers around the globe. For more information, visit fusionauth.io.