

## Oakland County Michigan Streamlines Data Storage of Application Data



### Customer

Oakland County, Michigan

### Industry

Government

### Challenges

- Automating storage of application data in AWS
- Streamlining data archiving of application data within AWS
- Need for freeing up IT resources and cut costs

### Solution

- AWS Storage Gateway Service
- Amazon S3 Storage Buckets

### Results

- Automated and Streamlined data storage and archiving of application data
- Freed up approximately 50 hours of IT resources per month
- Forecasted to save approximately \$10,000 per year in data storage costs

## Introduction

Founded in 1819, Oakland County Michigan is the second largest county in the State of Michigan. Oakland County is located in southeast Michigan, immediately north of the City of Detroit. The county covers 910 square miles and encompasses 62 cities, villages and townships (CVTs). Located astride the Interstate 75 corridor and at the heart of “Automation Alley”, Oakland County is a world technology center. Oakland County’s population is approximately 1.2 million, encompasses 440,000 parcels of property, and features one of the lowest operating tax rates in the state of Michigan. Oakland County is one of the few counties in the nation with a AAA bond rating.

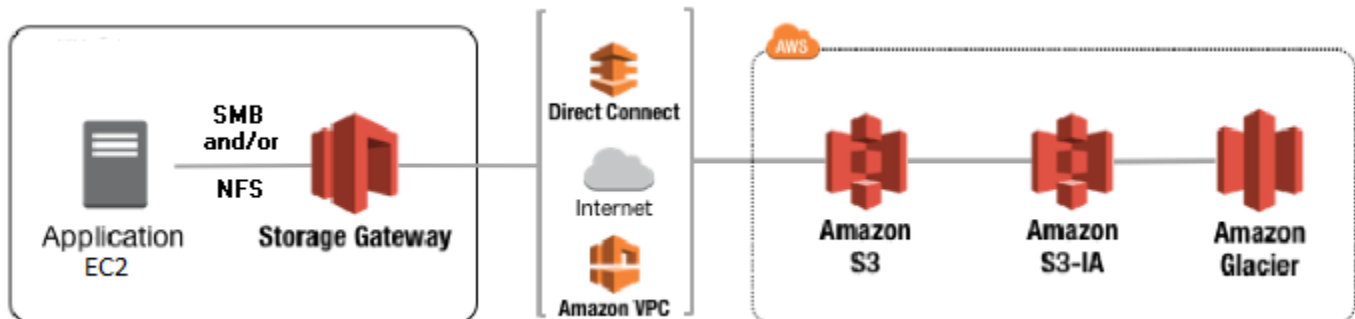
## Challenges

Oakland County was facing the issue of storing and archiving large amounts of application data. Oakland County’s application workloads currently run on an Amazon EC2 instance, and the application workloads remain configured to write data to the attached disks either directly or through their network. “We required a reliable and cost-effective solution to store and archive our ever-growing application data”, said EJ Widun, CTO of Oakland County Michigan. “We know firsthand the quality of work Strategic Communications brings to the table. We reached out to their Cloud Services Team to assist us on this project”.

## Solution

Strategic Communications proposed a solution comprised of using AWS Storage Gateway to store and access the data in Amazon S3 buckets. Strategic proposed S3 storage service and AWS Storage Gateway service because utilizing Storage Gateway as Volume Gateway service, users can map the S3 buckets as network drives to the application server. Through this strategy, applications can access the S3 storage as a drive attached to the server in storing and archiving the data.

Strategic deployed the solution according to the below architecture:



### Deployment steps:

- Created a S3 bucket in the same region as of application EC2 instance
- Launched Storage Gateway service
- Configured Storage gateway with the newly created S3 bucket and the Application EC2 server
- Enabled security groups to access S3 bucket through Storage gateway by the application

## Results

Upon successful testing, applications hosted in Amazon EC2 instances are now capable of accessing the storage and writing the data directly into Amazon S3 buckets. By using S3 storage, Oakland County reaped the benefits of using archive storage directly, saving them which is a cost-effective solution than EBS storage. From this solution, Oakland County freed up a minimum of 50 hours per month of human resources needed to make sure of copying and clean up of data written by applications. In addition, Oakland County saves approximately \$700 per month and is estimated to save over \$10,000 per year with projected data storage increases. "The new solution enables us to further automate and streamline the storing and archiving of application data", says Widun. "We have significantly freed up IT resources to work on more revenue generating projects, while saving thousands of dollars in data storage and archiving costs. Strategic Communications continues to work closely with our IT team in identifying opportunities for enhancing our capabilities to our citizens, increasing productivity and saving money."

## About Strategic Communications

Strategic Communications is an Information Technology (IT) company focused on Cloud Solutions, IT Security, Network Engineering, and A/V systems design. Founded in 1994, the company works with commercial enterprises, State/Local/Education (SLED) institutions and federal agencies across the United States delivering solutions to fit specific business requirements and end-user needs. Leveraging our partner relationships, business longevity, and experience we provide clients with the highest level of customer support. Strategic Communications is a Cisco Gold Partner, Microsoft Silver Partner, AWS Advanced Consulting Partner and an ISO 9001:2015 certified business, offering best in class technical solutions. In addition, the company is classified as a Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB), Woman Business Enterprise (WBE) and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE). For more information about Strategic Communications, please visit [www.yourstrategic.com](http://www.yourstrategic.com).



To learn more about Strategic Communications and our Cloud offerings, please visit

[www.yourstrategic.com](http://www.yourstrategic.com)

To learn more about Oakland County, Michigan visit

[www.oakgov.com](http://www.oakgov.com)

**Strategic Communications, LLC**

310 Evergreen Rd., Louisville, KY 40243

Phone: 502-493-7234 Fax: 502-657-6512

Email: [info@yourstrategic.com](mailto:info@yourstrategic.com)