SPK and Associates

Achieving Zero-Downtime Nightly Releases in a Highly Regulated Environment

Market traders understand the importance of timing in the trading industry. Each day missed (or hour missed) is considered lost revenue. When a proprietary trading firm began to miss trading days due to issues with its software, leaders of the firm contacted SPK to help. This firm heavily relies on CI/CD as it runs its programs throughout the entire market day. After market hours, team members conduct research and then make adjustments to the firm's software and infrastructure. These adjustments are implemented the next trading day. Due to this firm's goal of trading every day, they needed a reliable platform.

> "While our developers created great trading software, our IT team consisted of a few individuals in specific roles. We needed the diverse expertise of SPK's team to get us back on track. Thanks to SPK, we have not missed a single trading day.
>
> *Leader of Financial Trading Firm*

CHALLENGES

This trading firm required nightly software deployments to maintain its desired revenue. Unfortunately, their team encountered many issues with the trading software they developed. Their infrastructure was slow and unpredictable. They didn't have the uptime and the readiness to be able to trade and run their applications every single day. This was due to outages within the infrastructure. Some of these outages occurred due to a lack of testing while others could not be resolved due to a lack of proper tools and responsiveness from their internal DevOps team.

SOLUTION

Not only did this firm need a way to prevent infrastructure issues, but they needed to ensure if issues did arise they would be properly mitigated. SPK provided this company with 24/7 managed services including continuous monitoring, active communication, and testing. Our team caught failures and resolved them before the market opened so they could seamlessly operate during business hours. Additionally, we simplified compliance by helping them adhere to strict requirements from financial organizations such as the SEC and FINRA. Furthermore, our team supported their developers by providing them with software development tools.

RESULTS

While this financial trading firm had an internal IT group, it was small and the members lacked the technical depth needed to resolve these issues. SPK helped them monitor upwards of 75-100 servers, performing over 300 monitoring checks every 5 minutes. Our team ensured they never missed a trading day, something they would not have been able to do alone. If you are interested in exploring our managed services, or know a business that would benefit from them, contact us through our referral program.

0 MISSED TRADING DAYS

75-100 MONITORING SERVERS IMPLEMENTED

OVER 300 MONITORING CHECKS CONDUCTED EVERY 5 MINUTES