Sophos and AWS Help CD Baby Provide Reliable and Safe Systems for Independent Music Artists Around the World

CD Baby pays independent artists for their music in call the ways musicians earn money today: streaming, downloads, vinyl and CD sales, video monetization, sync licensing, publishing royalties, and more. Over the past two decades, CD Baby has grown to become the largest global distributor of independent music, that largest publishing rights administrator in the world, one of the most trusted names in the music business, and the go-to education resource on topics such as music marketing, rights management, and more. CD Baby is proud to work on behalf of 700k+ recording artists, helping them build a better bridge between their creativity and all the revenue sources they need to start or sustain a successful career in music.

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CD Baby
Portland, OR

Website
www.cdbaby.com

Sophos Solutions
Sophos Managed Threat Response (MTR)
Sophos Cloud Optix

'We place an immense value in paying our artists consistently and on-time while ensuring systems are safe, reliable, and monitored. Without trust we don't have a business.'

Tom Beohm
VP, IT
CD Baby

Executive Summary

Trust is at the core of the business for independent music distributor CD Baby. Working with independent artists from around the world, CD Baby ensures that music is successfully purchased, streamed, and shared. With the use of the public cloud, CD Baby's IT organization ensures music and the platform is reliable and continually available. With the help of AWS, Sophos Cloud Optix, and the Sophos MTR service, CD Baby is able to provide its artists a safe community and a dependable music network.

Broadening IT Security

Over the last several years, CD Baby has grown and, as a result, required a security solution to fit their needs. With a steady increase in streaming services and downloadable music, the use of the public cloud became instrumental for the organization. Looking to up-level security while establishing best practices, VP, IT Tom Beohm led the charge to modernize CD Baby's infrastructure and security. A methodical evaluation of which security solutions could be easily implemented while locking down user security began. "As we transitioned to the cloud, it was critical that we took infrastructure, IT complexity, employees, artists, and business growth all into consideration. We want to rightfully serve these areas and groups well. It's a fundamental part of what we do," describes Beohm.

The Right Investment

"For us, a return on what we are investing in security was the primary goal," outlines Beohm. CD Baby knew integrating the principle of protecting company data was paramount. For the company and Beohm's team is was not just about securing information but providing data and progress back to the business. "With security, it was about putting ROI in action," explains Beohm. "I knew we must make a concerted effort to tie business success and security together."

Prioritizing Artists and Their Work

At CD Baby the security elements are diverse and Beohm trusts his team to understand this. Manager of Systems Engineering Mahir Hrustić works with Beohm closely to guide security initiatives which meet business needs. Protecting audio files and artwork, along with file transfers for seamless digital music delivery translates to consistent network uptime. Infrastructure must be resilient and durable. "Every person at CD Baby is a steward to the artists who entrust their work to us," expresses Beohm. Hrustić whole-heartedly agrees. Under the IT team's leadership, CD Baby has created a trusted community where artists feel understood and, their work, protected. By better securing the entire CD Baby environment, the company can truly support their community of artists.

The Value of Sophos to Build a Great Business

Modernizing their security practice, gives CD Baby the ability to not only secure, but provide data and visibility back to the business through Sophos Intercept X Advanced with EDR and the Sophos Managed Threat Response (MTR) service. For Beohm, this is the ROI in action. "The investment is paying off," adds Beohm.

CD Baby utilizes a hybrid environment with a large number of workloads running in AWS. From a services perspective, CD Baby runs Amazon GuardDuty and AWS CloudTrail with Sophos Cloud Security Posture Management solution, Sophos Cloud Optix, providing the filter to these services. Workloads and data running on Amazon EC2 Instances are protected against advanced threats by Sophos Intercept X Advanced for Server with

EDR and MTR, while CD Baby's dynamic Kubernetes container environment is continually analyzed for vulnerabilities by Sophos Cloud Optix to provide complete visibility across their AWS environment. "It's imperative that we see misconfigurations and vulnerabilities and Sophos provides us the clarity we need," states Hrustić. Additionally, CD Baby use AWS Transit Gateway Network Manager which makes it easier to monitor their Amazon Virtual Private Cloud environment. CD Baby uses network visualizations and with Cloud Optix appreciates the correlation and single UI for multiple AWS environments and accounts which are brought into one, easy-to-digest view.

For Beohm and Hrustić Sophos MTR has helped streamline their organization. CD Baby IT has been able to add expertise and a dedicated SOC without having to increase headcount and incur incremental costs. "MTR provides us a major benefit," asserts Beohm. "The team of experts available 24/7 - they do this for a living. We appreciate that they keep on top of the latest activity and threats, so we can focus on delivering a secure, world-class service for customers and artists. They support us and can monitor or start executing at any time of day. This makes our entire team efficient," affirms Hrustić.

In taking stock of their security plans, both Beohm and Hrustić are content with the steps taken to improve and modernize their security posture. "The Sophos solutions we have in place work extremely well for us. The mix of endpoint protection, Cloud Optix, and the MTR service are exactly what we need. The suite of solutions has contributed to the modernization of security practices – which we think is great," verbalizes Hrustić.

It's these security practices which allow CD Baby to succeed as a company. Sophos is at the foundation for CD Baby's reliable platform and community of artists. "We want to do all we can to ensure the artists at CD Baby do well now and into the future. Partnering with Sophos allows us to do just that," concludes Beohm

For more information on how Sophos can help you, please visit sophos.com

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