About the Client

Cisco is the worldwide leader in networking for the Internet. Cisco hardware, software and service offerings are used to create the Internet solutions that make these networks possible – giving individuals, companies and countries easy access to information anywhere, at any time. The Cisco name has become synonymous with the Internet, as well as with the productivity improvements that networked business solutions provide.

Client Situation

The Application Foundation Solutions (AFS) team, responsible for architecting, designing, implementing and supporting a new enterprise wide Web Services platform. Their goal was to create a common web services management gateway as part of the SOA initiative at Cisco.

They needed a solution for the web services development teams to use and with the following major capabilities:

- Monitoring – Visibility into runtime operations of SOA.
- Management – Tracking, alerting and automatic remediation of SLAs.
- Centralized policy administration – Definition and management of policies that specify runtime aspects of SOA systems.
- Policy Enforcement – support security, routing, load balancing, transformations, versioning and other mediation functions.

The product used for this infrastructure is the Cisco Ace XML Gateway (previously Reactivity) which is an appliance specialized in XML and SSL acceleration for web services.

“We rely on The Armada Group to work seamlessly with the rest of our team in order to meet our delivery obligations and our clients’ expectations.” - AFS Development Manager, Cisco Systems
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The Armada team designed and implemented the first major deployment of the ACE XML Gateway product within the enterprise.

Major deliverables included:

- High level and detailed design, including documentation and stakeholders’ reviews/sign-offs.
- Set up infrastructure load balancing using Cisco ACE Module and secure the DMZ side via proper firewall ACLs.
- Secure the infrastructure service traffic end-to-end by implementing encryption (2 way SSL), authentication/authorization (http-basic and ws-security basic) and confidentiality (digital signatures).
- Enable back-end service integration via HTTP and JMS
- Lead QA and stress testing to assess infrastructure thresholds and support planned business growth.
- Ensure business continuity with a fully operational Disaster Recovery site.
- Defined and automated new partner on-boarding and provisioning rules as well as lifecycle deployment procedures.
- Set up monitoring model for real time issue detection and alerting using HTTP and SNMP monitoring.

ABoUt ArMaDa

Armada is an On-Demand Talent Solutions™ firm specializing in Software Development, IT, and Technical Project Management. For over 17 years, Armada has delivered On-Demand Talent Solutions for the world’s most innovative companies. Headquartered in Silicon Valley, our highly-trained Talent Consultants can help you solve your toughest hiring challenges, quickly and cost effectively.