GDIT Teams with Nutanix to Modernize the U.S. Military

General Dynamics Information Technology (GDIT) is a systems integrator that provides information technology, systems engineering, professional services, and simulation and training to customers in the defense, federal civilian government, health, homeland security, intelligence, and state and local government.

To help U.S. defense agencies modernize their infrastructures, GDIT has created Kubernetes solutions based on the Nutanix Kubernetes Platform (NKP). Thus far, GDIT has created NKP-based container management solutions for a broad array of U.S. military agencies and the deployment roster continues to expand.

Todd Bracken, GDIT DevSecOps Capability Lead for Defense, said the initial NKP deployments that GDIT created have proven their mettle by running securely and resiliently for three years. This success, said Bracken, along with accelerating demand for Kubernetes within the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), has led more groups within the U.S. defense industry to engage GDIT to create NKP-based solutions.

Why Nutanix?

Bracken said GDIT chose NKP as the basis for its Kubernetes solutions because of its successful deployment within the DoD Platform One program. Platform One is a shared resource that provides DevSecOps managed services for the DoD and other defense agencies. The platform solutions created within the DoD Software Factories provide consistency and standardization for Kubernetes deployments across the DoD.

GDIT also has made NKP the foundation of the Kubernetes solutions it creates within its Coral Software Factory, which Bracken leads. "NKP gives GDIT a secure, reliable, scalable, open, and production-ready platform on which to create Kubernetes solutions for its government clients," said Bracken. The fact that NKP is based on pure CNCF-conformant Kubernetes is an important dimension, he added.

Industry

Systems integrator for government agencies

Location

United States

Website

www.gdit.com

Products

Nutanix Kubernetes Platform

Key Challenges

- Modernize U.S. military agency infrastructure via secure Kubernetes container management solutions.
- Establish consistent and standardized Kubernetes platform for rollout among U.S. military agencies.
- Create a flexible Kubernetes management platform solution upon which applications can be created via digital engineering.

Key Benefits

- · First-class air-gapped security support.
- · Operational flexibility and efficiency.
- · Development workflow.
- Centralized multicloud, multicluster fleet management.
- Deployment across cloud, on-premise and edge environments.
- Solid foundation for future innovation, including AI applications.

Meeting Modernization Goals

The NKP solutions that GDIT is providing to government agencies are chiefly greenfield deployments to modernize legacy infrastructures. This includes providing shared-tenant environments and the digital engineering required to build specific agency applications on top of the Kubernetes foundation, said Bracken.

U.S. military agencies are seeking "all the benefits around containerization," Bracken explained, including development workflow for infrastructure, operational flexibility and efficiency.

"Ensuring high levels of security is a key requirement for government implementations, and GDIT is able to provide first-class support for air-gapped environments to its military clients via NKP," said Bracken. The simplification of application deployments through NKP automation is a huge advantage for DevSecOps teams, he added.

Cloud, Edge and Hybrid Solutions

Most of the solutions GDIT provides run in the cloud or on-premises, with deployment to edge locations also in the mix, said Bracken. Within these environments, ease of deployment, simplified management, observability, and multicloud, multicluster management are among the valued production-ready benefits NKP provides, he added.

While AI and machine learning solutions are still emerging within the military Kubernetes environments supported by GDIT, the Nutanix Kubernetes Platform (NKP) provides a strong foundation to scale AI applications and AIOps as use cases grow, said Bracken.

"The need to secure the supply chain is receiving heightened attention, and the high levels of security NKP provides will serve those strategic goals," Bracken noted. GDIT is currently creating NKP-based solutions to fulfill a new round of DoD contracts it has secured for container management solutions, and Bracken said he expects more deployments will be forthcoming as military modernization continues to accelerate.

Asked to rate the performance of NKP and the level of support GDIT has received from Nutanix. Bracken said both have been "excellent."

Take the Nutanix Kubernetes Platform for a <u>free test drive</u>. No software downloads. No configurations. Just login and launch. NKP gives GDIT a secure, reliable, scalable, open, and production-ready platform on which to create Kubernetes solutions for its government clients."

Todd Bracken
GDIT DevSecOps Capability Lead
for Defense



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