



BigID Customer Story:

How the US Army Ensures their Data is in the Safe Zone



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The Challenge

US Army TRADOC needed to understand and protect their sensitive data: including highly confidential army mission data around personnel movements, memorandums, logistical documents, training program details, and personal information about their students, employees, families, and personnel.

On top of that, they have an increasing amount of duplicate and redundant data: they need to identify what data they have, how long they need to keep it, reduce their attack surface, and mitigate risk on their confidential, mission critical, and regulated data.

With a cloud migration effort underway, they needed visibility and control on the data stored in SharePoint and OneDrive, so they can safely migrate the right data to Azure - with the proper controls in place.

They needed to:

- **Uncover dark data** and automatically find all sensitive, personal, and mission critical data
- **Accelerate cloud migration** to identify and remediate data that should (and shouldn't) be moved to the cloud
- **Minimize redundant, obsolete, and trivial data** to reduce risk and optimize costs
- **Automate data retention** to comply with government regulations and reduce manual overhead

As a highly regulated industry, the US Army requires any solution they select be cleared on IL4 and aligned with the Risk Management Framework "Assess Only" in order to run on controlled unclassified data and networks.

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The first wow moment with BigID came with just being able to have that single interface that inventories a variety of data holdings - including structured and unstructured data, across emails, zip files, sharepoint, databases, and more. To see that mass and to be able to correlate across those is completely novel. **I've never seen a capability that brings this together like BigID does.**

The Solution

US Army TRADOC turned to BigID to accelerate their cloud migration, reduce risk, optimize storage cost, and secure their critical, sensitive, and vulnerable data. BigID's enterprise solution has achieved government certification through the RMF **Assess Only** process and is approved to operate at **IL4** within the Department of Defense (DoD). BigID is listed on the **DoD eMASS system** under the identification number, **4856**.

They leverage BigID as a single pane of glass to manage and protect their data across Azure Cloud, Elastic, SQL Server, Oracle DB, Sharepoint, Office 365, and more.

With BigID, the US Army TRADOC is able to:

Shine a light on dark data and categorize, label, and identify their sensitive data: including personnel data (medical examination results, addresses, student records); training data and operational data, private keys and passwords that fare overexposed, and confidential data. With BigID, they can automatically inventory, tag, and classify all of their data across on-prem and in the cloud.

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We had the realization that we're not confident that we understand where our data is, what our data is - sensitive or not - and if it's duplicated, obsolete, or stale. **With BigID, we're able to scan through multiple layers - whether it's inside of zipped or archived files, email, structured data, or Sharepoint. We immediately found potentially unprotected certificates and private keys, redundant data that we can eliminate, and are able to easily categorize and classify our data with the right sensitivity (especially with controlled unclassified information) to ensure that we're handling the data in the right way.**”

The Solution

Identify and remediate data that's out of place, data that's in violation of the US Army's data protection policies, or high risk vulnerable data: whether that's mission critical data, encrypted keys, credentials, or more. With BigID, they can reduce risk and redundancy by automatically finding duplicate and redundant data that's unnecessary to store - and identifying the final version of documents that they need to retain.

Automate data retention to comply with government regulations, and establish a consistent data retention process to improve system hygiene, reduce technical debt, and reduce risk.

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There's nobody outside of the reach of having to comply with the government policy of retention and records management: you hear about it from the Army, the Marine Corps, Navy, Airforce, and everyone falls under the same compliance regulations. Managing data retention has been a completely manual process at this time - **BigID enables us to automate data retention up to the national records archive as part of the government regulations that we need to comply with, which has significant impact across the board.**”

Accelerate cloud migration by identifying the data that's fit for the cloud and minimizing the potential attack footprint in the cloud. “We've been in a transitive state with years and years of data that was stored and shared across multiple groups. Over the last year or two, inventorying and moving that data into cloud structures have been a significant undertaking. With BigID, we're able to move the right data to the cloud, eliminate duplicates and obsolete data, keep our cloud environment clean, and improve our security posture all at the same time.”

Easily report and validate on the risk of sensitive data: Every month or so, they have to generate a report of PII findings on their data stores. They have to characterize the nature of the PII they are storing as well as its location, permissions, etc - and it's nearly impossible to do that manually with confidence in your report. With BigID, they can now accurately report every 30 days to validate that the information stored in their unstructured Sharepoint environment does not contain sensitive or classified data.

The Solution

Integrate and enrich the existing tech stack: BigID makes data visibility and control the new normal, across our entire scope of data. "The level of interoperability with BigID in terms of both the connectors, data sources, and technologies it can reach through and integrate with the apps and workflows is a really important positive for us. What that means is as we adopt any technology, we don't have to retool every other part or throw away investment - with BigID, we can clearly close a gap with a capability that will integrate with other solutions."

About US Army TRADOC

TRADOC G-2 supports the US Army's Combat Training Centers, deployed forces, all of the Army's educational institutions and capability development activities. Known for their innovation and agility, they needed a solution to find and protect dark data, categorize and classify that data, automate data retention, and accelerate their migration to the cloud.

Know Your Data, Control Your Data.

Data Security • Compliance • Privacy • Governance

Reduce risk, accelerate time to insight, and get data visibility and control across all your data - everywhere.

See the BigID difference at www.bigid.com

“ Tools like BigID are the future.

Organizations should be leveraging these tools to remove the manual processes from data discovery, provide better visibility, and help with prioritization of controls.



Ryan O'Leary

Future of Trust: Battling Data Discovery Confusion