

Creating Scalability to Meet Growing Data Demands

Helping Zayo Scale to Meet Growing Data Demands

Zayo is the leading global communications infrastructure platform, delivering a range of solutions, including fiber & transport, packet and managed edge services. Zayo owns and operates a Tier 1 IP backbone spanning 134,000 miles across North America and Europe, providing mission-critical bandwidth to category-leading customers across the wireless, hyperscale, media, tech, and finance industries.

As the Zayo managed edge grew, customer and internal data demands were increasing much faster than they could ramp up internally. The company needed to make data more accessible and reliable to internal business users by creating a consolidated, holistic, reliable, governed single source of truth. They wanted to improve reliability and flexibility while reducing maintenance by implementing a modern cloud-based tech stack and best practices.

The Challenge

Zayo's existing edge data platform used many disparate technologies across different environments, making it complex and difficult to maintain. It wasn't able to scale to meet the rapidly changing business needs of a growing organization, and had limited flexibility to serve new analytical use cases. In particular, the platform was insufficient to support Zayo's Customer Reporting Portal – a significant opportunity to provide a differentiated edge network management experience.

Their existing system was also cumbersome for decision makers and managers. Business users had to log into multiple platforms to gain insight into data, a process that's too slow for a dynamic organization and misses the opportunity for data democratization.

Our Solution

DAS42 designed and optimized an end-to-end FullStack solution, based on best practices and our domain expertise. We implemented Snowflake as Zayo's completely managed data cloud warehouse service. The Snowflake-based platform allows for end-user queries of structured and unstructured big data, creation of multiple compute clusters, and easy isolation of workloads.

For orchestration of data ingestion into Snowflake, our team used open-source Airflow technology, providing a single-pane-of-glass view of the entire pipeline.

We employed Looker as the go-to tool for internal business intelligence (BI) use cases, with Snowflake data marts standardizing data for use in BI.

How Did it Turn Out?

With a wealth of data from multiple sources, Zayo can now make informed decisions based on holistic, 360° information. Their new data platform supports quick and flexible generation of insights through an interactive, intuitive interface that generates curated visualizations and timely insights for customers and internal stakeholders. Customers can access a data-driven portal that provides deeper end-to-end insights for the management of

their network.

The modern tools in place support scalability, performance, flexible UX, insight sharing, data governance, and self-service. And, most importantly, Zayo executives and managers across the organization have easy access to the data they need, and can have confidence that it is reliable, secure, and of high quality.

According to Zayo AVP of Edge Software Engineering Jon Moss, “Our strategic partnership with DAS42 to bring Snowflake to the table and bring the modern platform to us helped us accelerate our roadmap really, really quickly. We can offer our customers far greater visibility into their network, and we are able to gain business insights at a pace that matches the rapid growth rate of our business. We have a strategic design, an enterprise grade solution, and a partner that will take us far into the future.”

About

DAS42 provides cloud-based data analytics consulting to help executives and managers reduce the time to actionable insights and empower them to make better decisions, faster.

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