Overcoming visibility challenges to protect your AWS EC2 instances

Amazon Web Service’s Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) enables organizations to launch applications when needed and quickly obtain, configure and scale capacity as their requirements change. With such speed and flexibility, many organizations can lose sight of who and what is active on their networks. To build an effective security strategy, they need a solution that enables complete visibility and discoverability over all EC2 instances across all endpoints. By overcoming visibility challenges, organizations can maintain IT hygiene and mitigate security risk.

“Every organization’s biggest problem is visibility into its environment,” says John Visneski, Director of Information Security and Data Protection Officer at Pokémon Company International. “Many folks get ahead of their skis and try to get ‘wonder products’ that will solve all their problems, without first doing due diligence to establish a baseline, basic hygiene and that crucial visibility.”

Visibility challenges

While organizations, large and small, are increasingly connecting mission-critical applications and data to AWS and taking advantage of the flexibility of EC2, not having complete and real-time visibility into EC2 instances leaves them vulnerable.

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5 things to consider when choosing a solution for monitoring and protecting a cloud environment:

1. How to gain real-time visibility over all endpoints – physical, virtual and EC2 instances – with one console.
2. How to quickly identify unprotected/unmanaged EC2 instances and put them under management.
3. How to gain additional context around EC2 instances that drives better detection and response actions.
4. How to keep the network clean and secure with account monitoring, application inventory and asset inventory.
5. How to enable security operations that run at the speed and scale of the cloud.

Limited visibility into AWS EC2 instances can force organizations to turn to inadequate or overcomplicated third-party products. They may also opt to build an in-house solution, burdening IT security resources. Understanding the devices, applications and users on the network is the first step in managing security. CrowdStrike® Falcon Discover™ for AWS is a simple, intuitive and nimble IT hygiene solution that solves visibility challenges for AWS customers.
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Dynamic, real-time visibility for AWS EC2

Falcon Discover for AWS enables organizations to:

- Observe all EC2 instances in one centralized view.
- Discover and manage unprotected/unmanaged assets and put under protection as needed (with Falcon Sensor™ installed).
- Receive enriched context and valuable metadata on each EC2 instance to achieve better outcomes.
- Ensure good IT hygiene and mitigate risk with application inventories, asset inventories, and account monitoring.
- Meet the dynamic challenges of EC2 instances with no hit to performance.
- Prepare to migrate new workloads to AWS.

Visibility in action

Falcon Discover for AWS provides visibility and control from one console, so organizations can instantly assess and manage security. John Visneski comments, “Specifically when it comes to visibility within AWS environments, the rate that you’re spinning up and taking down EC2 instances means that your security posture needs to be able to react awfully quickly.” He continues, “Having a platform and a service that gives us visibility on demand as quickly as CrowdStrike can, has been huge for us. We are excited about the future, especially around Falcon Discover for AWS.”

Falcon Discover for AWS identifies and tracks computers and applications on the network and monitors and inventories systems, application usage and user account activity in real time. It pinpoints suspicious applications and locates unmanaged assets to ensure endpoints are secure.

Conclusion

With organizations scaling their data systems at an unprecedented rate, managing evolving and heterogeneous environments can be challenging. By providing complete IT transparency and visibility, Falcon Discover for AWS enables good IT hygiene and empowers organizations to react quickly and mitigate security risk throughout the enterprise. Find out how Falcon Discover for AWS can help your organization.

About CrowdStrike

CrowdStrike is the leader in cloud-delivered next-generation endpoint protection. CrowdStrike has revolutionized endpoint protection by being the first and only company to unify next-generation antivirus, endpoint detection and response (EDR), and a 24/7 managed hunting service — all delivered via a single lightweight agent.

Visit: www.crowdstrike.com/aws-and-crowdstrike

Meet with CrowdStrike to learn more about Falcon Discover for AWS and receive a pair of Apple AirPod wireless headphones. (Some conditions apply.)

Book your meeting now!