

Empowering higher education with AWS and Softcat

Universities and colleges are embracing digital transformation to create appealing modern campuses, improve student experiences, and empower research teams. To power their transformation, universities of all sizes are utilising Amazon Web Services (AWS). These services enable institutions to deliver mission-critical applications that require 100% uptime, scale on demand, maintain security, and optimise costs by paying only for what they use.

Softcat provides higher education institutions with optimal support and seamless implementation, so they can take full advantage of the transformational capabilities of AWS and realise their modernisation goals. With Softcat, customers can also access AWS Marketplace, to access and deploy leading software providers such as Splunk, Trend Micro and access new providers such as those delivering Generative AI solutions.

Click on a hotspot to discover the potential.







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MODERNISING AND SECURING YOUR CAMPUS

- Leverage AWS Cloud Solutions to modernise your institution's IT infrastructure, enhancing agility, scalability and availability. Based on our deep knowledge of AWS services, Softcat can help you centralise your resources and data, to help drive your digital transformation, offer better services to students and prepare for future growth.
- Empower university operations with AWS to boost agility, enhance data security and reduce costs. By transitioning mission-critical IT systems to the cloud and innovating for a digitally connected campus, universities can modernise their administrative, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Student Information Systems (SIS) frameworks, ensuring a better and safer online campus experience.
- Using VMware Cloud on AWS, universities can smoothly transition IT systems, combining powerful AWS Cloud infrastructure with familiar VMware tools. This enables easy application migration to the cloud, along with cost savings and efficient AWS integration, all without the need for extensive retraining.
- Elevate your security stance with a fully managed AWS Service Architecture designed to be the most flexible and secure cloud computing environment available today. It's built to satisfy the security requirements of high-sensitivity organisations and is backed by over 300 security, compliance and governance services and features, with support for 143 security standards and compliance certifications. Automated AWS safety measures help to mitigate against mistakes, letting teams focus on important work. Plus, with Softcat's expert backing, you're assured of a strong and adaptable cloud transition.
- Remain resilient against disruptions, from system failures to natural disasters, by spreading applications across AWS Availability Zones. AWS Elastic Disaster Recovery ensures swift and dependable recovery for physical, virtual and cloud servers, minimising downtime and safeguarding institutional data.

IMPROVING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- Increase student interaction using AWS Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools the most comprehensive set of AI capabilities available from any cloud provider. With Amazon's chat services such as Connect, Lex, Kendra and QnABot, universities can deploy conversational bots that address online learning questions via web chat or SMS. If students need more help, they can easily chat with a real person using Amazon Connect.
- Boost student retention with Machine Learning (ML) solutions tailored to higher education. By addressing the challenge of personalising student experiences, ML assists institutions in delivering relevant programme recommendations, enhancing student satisfaction and understanding student needs more effectively.
- Give students a head start in the tech-driven job world with the AWS Academy. This free cloud computing programme helps universities prepare students for top industry jobs and certifications.
- Take advantage of Softcat expertise and AWS AI services to transform your user experience. ML can help to provide students and teachers with efficient self-service options, boost your staff's productivity with AI-assisted calls, extract valuable insights from data and reduce costs while increasing student and employee satisfaction.

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TURNING DATA INTO WISDOM

- Higher education faces challenges with fewer students enrolling and changing student needs. Softcat's experience with AWS Data Solutions can help your institution to overcome these issues by unlocking the hidden insights in your data. By looking more closely at their institutional data, universities can gain a better understanding of how often classes should meet, what resources students need, and why some students may struggle. With these insights, paired with Softcat's expert support, organisations can make informed choices, ensuring both the institution and its students thrive.
- Reinvent university operations with comprehensive AWS Analytics Services. Centralising everything from data movement, data storage, analytics and more, offering unparalleled value, performance and scalability. With AWS and Softcat, organisations can seamlessly manage and analyse vast amounts of data, driving insights, streamlining processes and optimising costs.
- Maximise insights with advanced data tools and analytics. By centralising and optimising data, universities can ensure flexibility while maintaining privacy. AWS offers tools, including Machine Learning (ML), which allows educators to explore data in innovative ways. When combined with Softcat's expertise, this approach ensures you remain agile, addressing challenges head-on and driving informed decisions.
- Many universities are facing declining attendance, financial challenges and an urgent need for transformation. Softcat and AWS can help your institution address these issues by centralising data from your SIS and Learning Management Systems (LMS) into a cohesive data lake, breaking down silos. This integration leads to actionable insights, from course reminders to tailored learning. With AWS and Softcat's support, universities gain agility, improve academic performance and make data-driven decisions.



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EMPOWERING RESEARCHERS AND ACCELERATING RESEARCH

- As a longstanding and highly accredited AWS partner, Softcat empowers higher education and global research institutions to focus more on science by streamlining infrastructure development. This acceleration in research timelines allows researchers to prioritise groundbreaking discoveries over the technical setup of their labs.
- By providing secure, scalable and cost-effective storage and database services, AWS Solutions can accelerate the research process, reducing the time from hypothesis to discovery. This approach ensures that researchers have the advanced tools they need to innovate, while organisations benefit from optimised costs and faster outcomes.
- Empower university researchers with robust AWS Platforms. Offering centralised data management, AWS seamlessly handles vast datasets and utilises Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) tools. This accelerates data analysis, optimises storage and facilitates global collaboration.
- AWS further supports academic research by providing access to open datasets, funding and specialised training. The AWS Open Data Sponsorship Programme covers the costs of storing high-value, cloud-optimised datasets.

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