

Driving modernization with deep strategic partnerships

It's incumbent on all levels to develop comprehensive solutions to help the government overcome its mission challenges



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Leidos

When it come to truly modernized, secure systems that operate at speed and scale, no one integrator or vendor has the right answer for every customer mission. Instead, we must pull together established and emerging capabilities to help agencies remain on the leading edge of modernization.

There are three key challenges that are driving demands for digital transformation. First, a tremendous explosion of data has made it extremely difficult for government agencies and mission owners to make sense of all the information that is being generated across their IT environments.

Second, cyberthreats and hacking campaigns are becoming more frequent and significantly more sophisticated. In addition to the well-publicized Colonial Pipeline and SolarWinds-based attacks in 2021, the FBI reported a 300% increase in cybercrimes and security breaches since the start of the pandemic, and officials expect those efforts to continue. Threat actors are using every means at their disposal to exploit IT environments

that affect health care operations, national security, critical energy infrastructure and even law enforcement.

Third, agencies are running hybrid IT environments that include on-premises legacy infrastructure, cloud-based technology, and any number of fog and edge computing devices such as mobile phones, laptops, 5G-enabled devices and smart sensors. That means agency systems are becoming more complex and harder to manage.

Working together to engineer new capabilities and solutions

In response to the challenges agencies face, Leidos has been focused on building deep strategic partnerships that help us create at-scale solutions for our government customers. These partnerships are characterized by a commitment to open lines of communication and transparency in terms of strategy and investments. We also operate in what we describe as a badgeless environment in which experts from different companies work side-by-side to engineer new

capabilities and solutions.

For example, we're working with Amazon Web Services, Microsoft, HashiCorp, Rancher Federal and Intel to drive modernization across the Army and the Defense Department with our Edge to Cloud digital ecosystem. This capability enables legacy platforms and new technologies to coexist and allows data sharing at scale to give the military decision-making advantages over our adversaries.

In addition, through our partnership with ServiceNow, we are investing heavily in low-code/no-code solutions designed to help our customers modernize IT environments with speed while decreasing costs. ServiceNow's easy-to-understand interface allows even nontechnical employees to put new capabilities into production.

A powerful combination of cutting-edge solutions

In response to President Joe Biden's Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity, we have deepened our relationships with

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Zscaler and Palo Alto Networks because each company brings a unique set of capabilities to help agencies navigate the move to a zero trust security posture. In addition, the Leidos Zero Trust Readiness Level (ZTRL™) methodology gives us the ability to conduct an in-depth survey of an agency’s security posture. We then work with our partners to devise a plan to address any security gaps and create a roadmap to move the agency

along on its zero trust journey, with the end goal of preparing the agency to defend against external cybersecurity risks and internal threat actors.

The simultaneous challenges of the data explosion, the increased frequency of sophisticated cyberattacks and the growth of heterogeneous environments require that technology partners work together to bring each of our cutting-edge solutions to agencies. At Leidos, we are committed to

establishing deep technical partnerships to help drive digital modernization across the government’s most vital operations. ■

Derrick Pledger is vice president and director of the Digital Modernization Accelerator at Leidos.

Secure technology, at speed and scale

For your most critical missions

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