Key Challenges Facing Quotient’s Federal Government Clients

Mission: To continue to provide reliable archival data storage and access, enterprise- and nation-wide

Cloud Hosting Migration and Systems Upgrade

“We need to move from a colocation hosting solution to a FedRAMP cloud services provider.”

Case Study: National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB)

The National Assessment Governing Board is an independent Federal agency whose mission is to develop guidelines and standards to better assess our nation's educational progress. The Governing Board's members are geographically disparate, which makes the nagb.org and nagb.gov websites critical to effective distribution of Board member materials. The National Assessment Governing Board needed to seamlessly migrate from an existing colocated hosting solution to a FedRAMP cloud based solution to meet Federal requirements.

PROBLEM WAS:

• Federal mandate requires NAGB to migrate to a FedRAMP cloud hosting provider.
• Current system is under continual use by Board members and the public.
• Existing hosting was not security centric.
• AEM content management system (CMS) was out of date.

SOLVED BY:

• Selecting a qualified FedRAMP vendor based on cost, scale, capability, and continuity of operations planning.
• Creating an after action script and baseline configuration to further lock down the vendor's Red Hat Enterprise Linux OS image — including ASLR, SELinux, and more.
• Providing a web proxy to handle traffic sent to the old IP address due to the inherently slow process of migrating .gov DNS.
• Testing new OS & CMS extensively.

RESULTS WERE:

• Seamless transition with no downtime.
• Minimal “content freeze” period.
• Users were unaware of the behind the scenes proxy handling in place until .gov DNS change occurred.
• Enhanced operational security.
• Gained ability to more easily migrate to another provider.