

# Unifying Devs and Ops with Config Management and Compliance Automation

CASE STUDY



INDUSTRY  
Healthcare

INTEGRATION  
AWS

USE CASES  
Configuration management and compliance automation

## About

Cerner's health technologies connect people and information systems at more than 27,500 contracted provider facilities worldwide dedicated to creating smarter and better care for individuals and communities.

## Business Issue

Cerner was using manual processes to maintain the life cycle of systems and deliver healthcare IT solutions at scale. They needed a cohesive set of tools across all of its organizations, to empower individuals to innovate, and improve client experiences.

## Business Challenge

Cerner teams were manually maintaining the life cycle of systems in a human judgment call-centric processes that didn't scale. The company needed to find a way to automate the deployment of solutions, removing human intervention by treating configuration as code, and building a framework to unify and codify delivery pipelines. Cerner also wanted to unify its development, operations, and security organizations.

## Solution

Deployed Chef InSpec to ensure security and compliance of underlying platforms and Chef Infra to automate configuration management. This enabled a universal language for the company to codify delivery pipelines..

## Impact

Cerner is now able to fully automate its infrastructure, compliance, and security, facilitating collaboration across a diverse set of stakeholders. This enabled them to:

- Eliminate late-night fire drills
- Put a systematic and easily-monitored process in place
- Create a method for developers, operations, security, and other stakeholders to have conversations and to engage in spirited debate around the optimal way to manage systems
- Apply lessons learned to the breadth of Cerner solutions, making the company more agile and responsive to ever-changing needs of the marketplace

**“Beyond the technology, beyond the mechanics of doing configuration as code, has been a culture shift, changing how we treat systems, and how we interact with each other.”**

**Kyle Harper,**  
Lead Engineering Manager,  
Cerner