CASE STUDY

Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world. An international organisation with 22 Member States that also coordinates the financial and intellectual resources of its members. It undertakes programmes and activities far beyond the scope of any single European country.

COMPANY NAME
ESA – European Space Agency

INDUSTRY
Research & Space Observation

WEB
www.esa.int

OBJECTIVE

The main objective of the project was to provide an IDaaS (Identity as a Service) platform to offer account management and Single Sign-on (SSO) for commercial companies operating in ESA member states to access all Earth Observation Data and Applications with a single Identity. ESA was looking for an established platform which supported open standards for security like SAML, OpenID Connect, and OAuth. A high availability topology was also required for business continuity.

The main goal was to allow commercial partners access to services offered by ESA and its partners while using SSO technologies. While some of these services had already integrated SSO for researchers (using eduGAIN), commercial partners didn't have access to a federated IDP and were using local accounts at each service. The Gluu-based system enabled these partners to use a central ESA identity for all services. The portal also promoted services that are connected to the platform.

THE PROJECTS 4 MAIN COMPONENTS

1. The Gluu Server, acts as the central federation identity provider.

2. didmos (by DAASI International) provides Identity Management and a web portal for self-service administration, workflow management and delegated administration. The web portal uses SCIM to update identity information in the Gluu Server database. For example, new users register in the didmos web portal, are vetted by an operator, and then are provisioned to the Gluu Server.

3. Jira Service Desk provides a ticket system for communication between users and the Operator (i.e. support requests). It is also used to enable certain workflows, such as vetting new accounts or requesting the protection of new websites that need SSO.

4. An analytics platform provides monitoring and auditing.

COIH Service
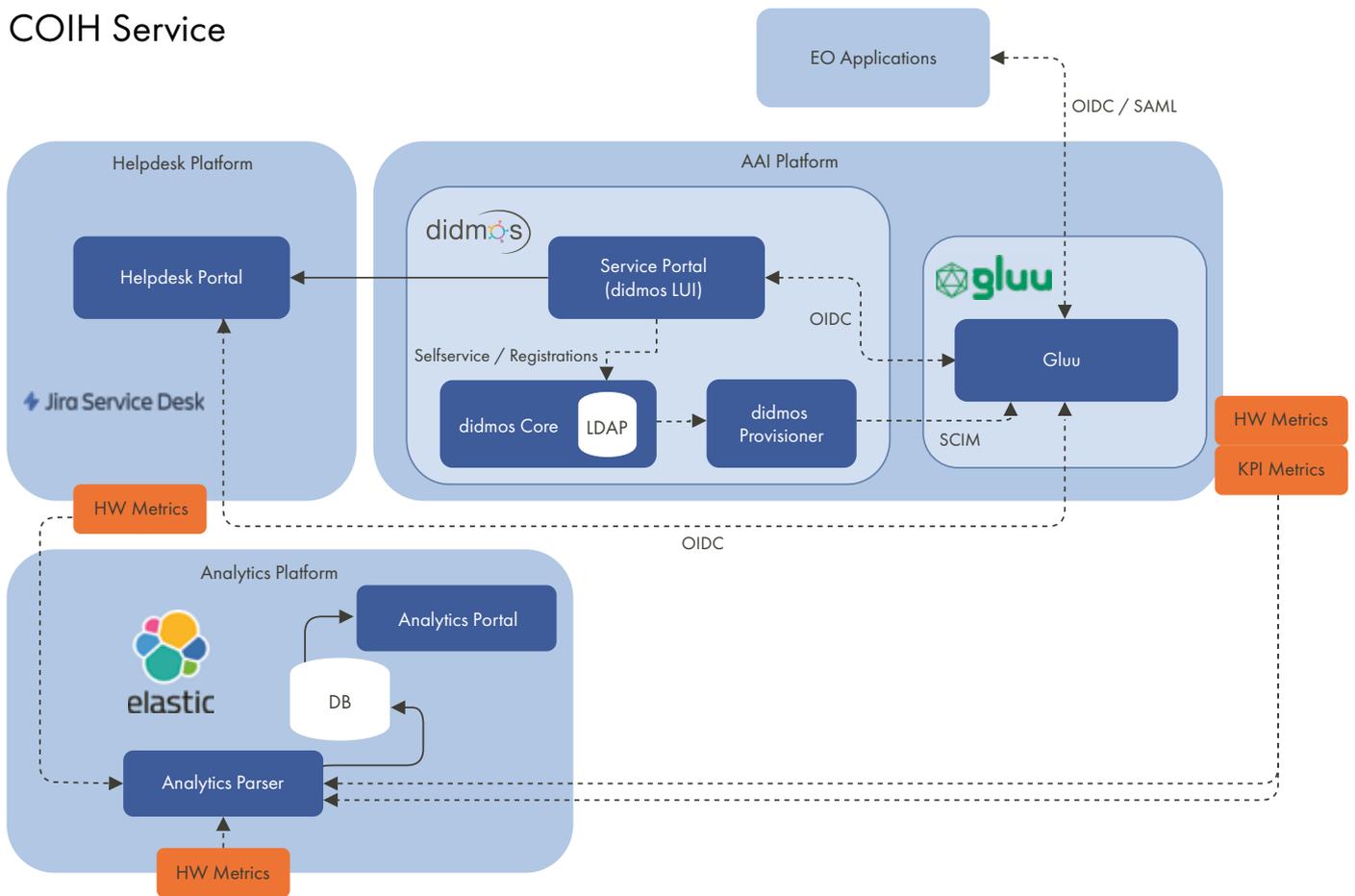
OUR SOLUTION

The solution offers high-availability for both the Gluu Server (using the Gluu Cluster Manager deployment tool) and didmos. The propagation of user change events from didmos to Gluu is designed in a way to prevent data loss by using a message queue system that guarantees delivery, and connects via the Gluu SCIM API. The workflows between didmos, Jira Service Desk and Gluu have been automated as much as possible to allow efficient operations.

User management and authentication were centralised for this service. Additional services will leverage the central identity platform in the coming years. That's a big improvement from local management at each application with strong security benefits for end users.

Deimos and DAASI International are operating the platform, including vetting new user registrations and assisting application developers in connecting their services to Gluu. So far feedback from users on both is very positive.

IN COOPERATION WITH

GLUU INC
info@gluu.org
www.gluu.org

DEIMOS SPACE
info@elecnor-deimos.com
www.elecnor-deimos.com