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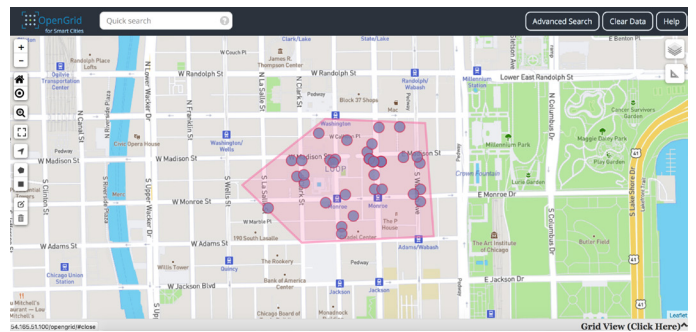
New Version of OpenGrid for Smart Cities in AWS Marketplace Expands Data Capabilities

Chicago, IL: Today, Uturn Data Solutions, a Chicago-based Amazon Web Services (AWS) Consulting Partner in the AWS Partner Network (APN), released version 2.0.0.1 of OpenGrid for Smart Cities in AWS Marketplace, greatly enhancing the product to support the popular open source MySQL database. Based on the award-winning open source project by the City of Chicago, OpenGrid enables municipalities to offer residents, businesses, and communities a better way to explore and interact with publicly-available data about their city or region. Uturn initially launched OpenGrid for Smart Cities in May as an Amazon Machine Image (AMI) making it easy for any city to adopt the platform for its own use and quickly deploy it on the AWS Cloud.



OpenGrid for Smart Cities version 2.0.0.1 enhancements include: updates from the Open Source project, a new administrative user interface (UI) to simplify deployment, improved caching of metadata, and most significantly, an updated service layer to connect natively to MySQL databases. With the addition of MySQL, users can now choose to take advantage of data repositories that are public, private, or both. A commercial organization, for instance, now has the advantage of overlaying publicly available data with privately stored data and gaining further insights into business possibilities.

The open source beginnings of OpenGrid represent a new model for innovation in the public sector. “OpenGrid is a prime example of how the public sector is using cloud technology to make complex municipal data more discoverable, usable, and actionable for its citizens,” said Teresa Carlson, Vice President, Worldwide Public Sector, AWS, Inc. “The public-private collaboration between the City of Chicago and Uturn Data Solutions on OpenGrid for Smart Cities is an example of the collaboration and innovation we expect to see more of in the civic tech space.”



“The code for OpenGrid is available online, but adopting open-source solutions still requires in-house expertise and infrastructure to host the application,” said Tom Schenk, Chief Data Officer for the City of Chicago. “The OpenGrid AMI enables any city to start using the platform with a click from AWS Marketplace so they can quickly deploy on a low-cost infrastructure. We hope to move the needle from producing open source software to thinking about how it can be easier to adopt and reuse.”

About Uturn Data Solutions

Uturn Data Solutions is a Chicago-based IT consultancy at the nexus of data strategy and cloud computing. They provide advisory and cloud based services to help organizations get the most from their data and technology investments. Founded in 2013, the Uturn works with clients in several industries including healthcare, public sector, financial services and tech start-ups to develop and execute data-driven initiatives. More information about Uturn can be found at uturndata.com.