

REDUCING DRUG TRAFFICKING WITH COGNITIVE ANALYTICS

BACKGROUND

The Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATFS) is an organization within the U.S. government composed of about 500 interagency and international partners (Services and Law Enforcement from the U.S. and Partner Nations). The task force's mission is to conduct detection and monitoring operations in Central and South America, the Caribbean and Mexico and in the international waters and airspace adjacent to the United States. JIATFS focuses on one of the most corrosive national scourges—illicit drug trafficking. As JIATFS evolved in the post-9/11 political environment, its detection and monitoring responsibilities widened to include weapons of mass destruction and people of national interest including terrorists and illicit money, gun and drug trafficking.

CHALLENGE

In 2007, JIATFS supported approximately 57% of all cocaine trafficking disruptions worldwide. However, as the traffickers applied increasingly sophisticated methods to mitigate the task force's efforts, when coupled with the decline of detection and monitoring assets provided by governmental agencies and departments within the U.S. and abroad, this figure fell to 38% in 2013. Ingesting large volumes of data from interagency and international partners is extraordinarily difficult. In the four decades prior to the creation of the task force, Congress assigned other U.S. departments and agencies the detection and monitoring mission and all failed due in large part by the inability to unify the data sets. Intelligence-driven operations require unified data sets to produce actionable targets. Accordingly, previous failed efforts to unify disparate data is what led to the creation of JIATFS. Any unification of

intelligence from disparate sources must consider all applicable laws, directives, regulations, policies and privacy concerns that U.S. government agencies have in place to ensure the appropriate use of that data. Many similar requirements on the part of partner nations further compound this challenge. As a result, the creation of a suspected illicit target list derived from all known sources, complete with all known information, is no simple task.

SOLUTION

JIATFS struggled for years to find effective software to solve their data unification problem before turning to the Intel® Saffron™ Solutions Group. The Saffron Cognitive Solution exposes semantic signatures and uses analytic techniques to significantly improve the discovery of relevant intelligence information. Intel® Saffron Memory Base™ is agnostic to data content and format. This enabled the quick ingestion and unification of intelligence data from disparate electronic file systems and formats, which has been a persistent problem for the agency. Saffron Cognitive Solutions solved JIATF South's data tagging challenge—a critical component of the classification process—as the tagging of data differs greatly within U.S. intergovernmental agencies and across the Partner nations. As a result, the analyst is challenged with properly attributing and classifying information coming from disparate data sources. While some metadata tags are objective, the topic and information content, on the other hand, is more subjective, and often appears in different languages. Analysts typically use generic or overly specific tags which makes it difficult for the interagency analysts to discover, and often more importantly, to rediscover

intelligence that has relevant or even critical content.

RESULT

The Intel® Saffron Memory Base™ provided significant reduction of labor hours spent tagging products and eliminating storage requirements for duplicate files, which has been a significant issue for the DOD and U.S. government. The Saffron Cognitive Solution was able to associate the respective classification of every bit of data from all sources and expose these classifications to the analyst. An analyst can now select which appropriate data sources to use in their reporting, which will in turn, drive the overall classification of the data.

WHY SAFFRON COGNITIVE SOLUTIONS



Unprecedented Accuracy

Provides customers with the highest degree of data accuracy—the proof is in our results.



Full Transparency

Gives customers the explanation and reasoning behind the results of their data.



Learns on Sparse Data

Learns on sparse data so customers don't need volumes of data to get started.



Time-to-value

Customers can rapidly unlock value in their data (i.e., weeks rather than months).



Speed-to-insight

Provides customers faster speed-to-insight to quickly see the actionable knowledge in their data.



Model-free and rule-free

Dynamic and not constrained by rules and models—incrementally learns and adapts in real-time from incoming data and human



High ROI

Proven track record of high ROI for leading enterprises across industries and use cases.

LEARN MORE

To find more information about Intel Saffron Cognitive Solutions, go to www.saffrontech.com.