PolySync: Autonomous Vehicle Leaders Monetize Their Software Platform

PolySync is an innovative technology company that is helping shape the future of driverless (autonomous) vehicles. PolySync®, the autonomy operating system, is a software platform made to help developers build, test and deploy automated vehicle applications quickly.

Prior to PolySync’s single, centralized platform, the software systems in autonomous vehicles could be numerous and often incompatible. This left companies doing back-end coding instead of focusing on their core competencies — a trend that PolySync didn’t want to replicate with their software monetization needs.

**CHALLENGE**
- Scalability of systems to meet increased demand
- Efficient delivery of software, including updates
- Differentiation of products to pursue new markets

**SOLUTION**
- Software Monetization Platform to: Manage the entire software license lifecycle
- Automate software delivery and update process
- Create market-specific feature bundles

**BENEFITS**
- Tiered product offerings: PolySync Basic, Plus and Pro
- Addition of 30-day trials
- Improved customer security with automated delivery of patches and updates

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**JOSH HARTUNG**
— CEO, POLYSYNC
PolySync founders saw an opportunity to develop PolySync when they realized their customers were spending excessive time and resources building back-end infrastructure software for their Internet of Things (IoT) connected, autonomous vehicle systems. As a result, critical resources were being diverted from core innovation and product development. PolySync was launched to eliminate that inefficiency via a software platform that manufacturers can deploy out-of-the-box to control their device sensors, communications, and control systems. PolySync needed a flexible software licensing and entitlement management system that could scale to accommodate a rapidly growing customer base with a broad spectrum of licensing, entitlement and update requirements.

**Build vs. Buy**

PolySync originally built its own patching and encryption tools but they quickly learned they could not scale to accommodate a connected IoT world with potentially millions of vehicles running local software. As a result, the company sought a third-party software monetization solution that was easy to use and could meet its evolving needs. Plus, it would allow them to rapidly adopt to changing market requirements and give them more credibility in the market.

“Most application producers don’t get how critical licensing and entitlement management is for revenue generation — we weren’t going to make that mistake.” said Josh Hartung, CEO at PolySync. “Licensing technology is so complex, it didn’t make sense for us to waste time developing our own software monetization solution — we needed the experts.”

**Key Selection Factors**

According to PolySync, key reasons for selecting Flexera were flexibility, scalability and credibility. PolySync recognized that Flexera offered a broad range of interoperability with different platforms, operating systems and APIs. The technical flexibility was key.

PolySync has their sights set on exponential growth with a large number of installations. They were encouraged to see other Flexera customers with installations in the hundreds of millions and were confident that “these guys knew what they were doing,” said Hartung.

**Benefits: Product Differentiation**

PolySync uses Flexera’s Software Monetization Platform to offer three tiers of licensing for its Software as a Service (SaaS) products — PolySync Basic, Plus and Pro in addition to 30-day “simulator” trials. The system will automatically manage the back-office entitlements, ensuring that PolySync knows who its customers are, which versions of software they’ve paid for, and what their specific license rights are.

**Benefits: Security**

Security was also a critical factor weighing in favor of selecting Flexera’s Software Monetization Platform. “The need to issue updates is a regular occurrence in the software business — so being able to automatically push out security patches and fixes to our customers is critical,” said Hartung. “Flexera’s automated update capabilities will greatly simplify our ability to keep customers up-to-date on the software they’ve purchased — even as we grow and scale.”