

REAL-TIME SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

About

Yelp connects people with great local businesses. Founded in July 2004, Yelp has taken root in countries across the globe, making it the leading local guide for real word-of-mouth on everything from boutiques and mechanics to restaurants and dentists.



Goals

Yelp needed a monitoring solution that didn't divert resources from building and developing core services and which could meet these needs:

- Demand from engineering for self-service analytics to track key metrics they instrument in real-time
- Multidimensionality in metrics data for drill downs and alerting on dynamic aggregations like percentile of latency by service by user type
- Real-time analytics to catch problems before they impact users

YELP WANTED TO SPEND MORE TIME BUILDING YELP

Results

SignalFx has saved Yelp an engineering team's worth of time. They are now able to catch problems they had no way of seeing before - their existing tools didn't offer anything like SignalFlow stream analytics.

- Ops can now find and resolve problems they were unable to see before, like driver storage performance, using real-time analytics on multidimensional data
- Proactive capacity planning enabled by time over time comparisons and other accurate analytics on high resolution data
- Everyone can now instrument and monitor their own metrics, empowering teams to diagnose, tune, and test their own service performance

“For the vast amount of metrics we produced, SignalFx was the only solution we tried that didn't fall over in the first week.”

Sam Eaton

Director of Operations, Yelp

Environment

Yelp has 1000s of systems, spread across the globe:

- Hosted in both private data centers and AWS
- Mix of a core monolithic application and many growing microservices
- 100s of engineers organized in teams focused on specific areas of business, and each monitor their own services
- Dedicated operations team scaling infrastructure, building platforms, and providing tooling

How

Yelp sends SignalFx everything from infrastructure metrics, to metrics from services like Kafka, to custom application metrics instrumented by developers:

- Systems metrics like CPU, DiskSpace, LoadAverage, Memory, Network, VMStat
- Platform metrics from NetApp, HAProxy, Httpd, ProcessFIOStat, Nginx, MySQL, PuppetAgent, RabbitMQ, Zookeeper, Redis, and more
- Integrations with Diamond and Fullerite agents, SignalFx's Graphite Metrics Proxy, AWS, and PagerDuty

“SignalFx has provided us with powerful tools to explore and find critical insights in our data.”

Sam Eaton

Director of Operations, Yelp

Why SignalFx

Only SignalFx offered features that could compare with and improve upon what Yelp already built in-house:

- Scale to handle large volume of metrics – none of the other solutions could stay up in the first week of tests
- Deliver real-time analytics and advanced alerting capabilities on high volume data – a problem Yelp didn't think anyone could address before SignalFx
- Be a reliable solution that will remain up even when Yelp is down
- All while being a cost-advantageous solution, compared to the engineering time and infrastructure that would be necessary to maintain and operate a solution in-house

About SignalFx

SignalFx is the most advanced monitoring solution for modern applications. Our mission is to help cloud-ready organizations drive high levels of availability in today's elastic, agile, distributed environments. With SignalFx, development and operations teams gain a real-time view of, interact with, and take action on the infrastructure and application metrics that matter.