RISKFUEL

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Fintech Riskfuel optimises its manpower to focus on business with Lenses

With tens of millions of euros per year spent by individual banks in risk-calculation infrastructure, Riskfuel aims to revolutionize the industry with the use of AI and streaming data to make validation and risk calculations cheaper, better and up to one million times faster.

Traders need such calculations to manage their risks and understand the drivers of their profitability. Due to rapid adoption across financial services, Apache Kafka was Riskfuel's preferred streaming technology. Using the same technology stack as their target market makes it easier to integrate their technology with their customers'. Kafka is the technology that allows Riskfuel to feed their AI models.

*"Our shortest commodity is manpower; **every minute we can save on managing our technology is worth more than anything else to my business** and allows my team to focus on accelerating our offerings to market. Lenses has been crucial for us in this regard"*

- Ryan Fergusson, CEO, Riskfuel

✓ Riskfuel uses Lenses as a single easy-to-use Apache Kafka user interface and API for their Data Science and Engineering team

✓ This allows them to monitor the performance of their flows, troubleshoot their Kafka infrastructure as well as administer their platform without having to log into consoles.

✓ A new data flow can now be developed with no coding and deployed into production in one hour compared to days of effort previously.

✓ Riskfuel estimates it saved them months of Kafka education such as learning Kafka commands - time better spent on developing the AI models for their customers.

As a fintech startup, Riskfuel finds itself having to do as much as a multinational bank but with a fraction of the resources. "As a young business, we have 83 different things we need to be working on and I don't want managing Kafka to be one of them" says CEO Ryan Ferguson.

Kareem Kudus is a senior data scientist at Riskfuel. "I'm not a Data Engineer. I went into this project thinking I would need to learn all these different commands to manage Kafka" he says. "Instead, Lenses allows me to administer Kafka from a single easy-to-use user interface and API". Kareem estimates it saved him months of Kafka education - time better spent on developing the models for their customers.

It also saves Kareem time in his day-to-day work: an example being how they pushed an update to a broker they felt was safe which ended up knocking out a piece of their Kafka infrastructure. "There were 5 different places we would have had to start looking to find the problem but using Lenses for monitoring enabled us to pinpoint the problem immediately." he says.

The topology view allows them to see the performance of their flows of data across their environment; "It allows me to be proactive and to know if my consumers are working well by seeing the consumption rate of the data that's feeding our training calculations".

Riskfuel plans to increase their use of Lenses to help build and run their data flows with SQL.

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