CASE STUDY

How CSE Insurance cultivates a data-driven culture with Atlan
I can’t believe how many times in a day I go into Atlan. I don’t look in any other place anymore because it’s so convenient.

We live in it, my team lives in it.

LARISA GOROKHOVA,
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE
CSE was founded as a company for civil workers — for teachers, firefighters, police officers... 

We're trying to make it so that insurance makes sense and it's easy for our customer.

LARISA GOROKHOVA, Director of Business Intelligence

About CSE Insurance

An established insurance provider since 1949, CSE Insurance is a subsidiary of Covéa, a $20 billion global insurer. They provide property and casualty insurance across the United States.

Over the last decade, CSE has won several famed awards for its diverse, equitable products.

Ward's Top 50 in Property Casualty

AM Best's “Excellent” financial rating

Stevie Award for Landlord Insurance Product
A modern data stack as a competitive advantage

🚀 Early adopter of the modern data stack

CSE Insurance was an early adopter of the modern data stack, and leapfrogged legacy competitors by adopting AWS, Redshift, and Tableau early. Now CSE needed a third-generation data catalog to democratize data across the entire company.

🏆 In 2017, CSE was awarded Model Insurer of the Year by Celent for its digital transformation.

Amazon Web Services
Amazon Aurora
Amazon Redshift

Tableau
Metadata management & data governance
The Problem

CSE’s “uninsured” insurance data
### Before Atlan...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILOED DATA</th>
<th>MISMATCHED METRICS</th>
<th>MIGRATING DOCUMENTATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data was scattered across disparate sources</td>
<td>Basic definitions &amp; metrics were warped among users</td>
<td>Tableau governance efforts had to migrate seamlessly</td>
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“When I searched for a column, the same one would appear in multiple tables. I used to go through every column in every table to find the right fit. **It would take hours.**”

“The insurance data, and business, is extremely complex and the **multiple aspects of data create a lot of ambiguity** between different user groups.”

“**Tagged workbooks, separated user sites, permissions, and updated descriptions... I would love to not have to configure everything again.**”

**RESHMA PATURI**  
Data Analyst

**LARISA GOROKHOVA**  
Director of BI

**FAUSTO HUEZO**  
Data Architect
CSE needed a **single source of truth** between the many different data users, without losing months of documentation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESSIBILITY</th>
<th>“I really liked my first impression of Atlan and the website. Like, ‘Oh, here’s a demo’ and I can actually see how things work instead of having to read some whitepaper.”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFFORDABILITY</td>
<td>“Major competitors on the market are $200,000 investments and my company cannot afford that.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPEN BY DEFAULT</td>
<td>“You guys are so open, everything is available. I’m always pointed to the right source to read more about things. I hope you keep up that side of your business where the customers are your top priority.”</td>
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LARISA GOROKHOVA
Director of Business Intelligence
We did an assessment of Alation, Informatica and a few other tools.

When I saw the Atlan demo for the first time, I had the feeling that it's so easy. It’s almost as if it knows what I'm looking for before I even start clicking.

LARISA GOROKHOVA,
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE
CSE was able to implement Atlan in **less than half the time they expected**, thanks to guided adoption and responsive support from our team of experts, and a library of documentation and best practices from our community.

I budgeted about **three to four months** for one full-time developer to set up Atlan.

We had it set up — to the point where all of us were looking into it and contributing — somewhere in mid-February, which is **only six weeks**.”

LARISA GOROKHOVA,
Director of Business Intelligence
To enable self-discovery, CSE turned ad-hoc requests into reusable resources inside Atlan, their home for data.

“It feels like I transferred the weight of my knowledge to Atlan.”

KATE DROGAIEVA, Senior Developer of Business Intelligence

1. Creating a group of champions

CSE formed a small group of data champions and kicked off their documentation initiative. In just a few weeks, they brought all of the siloed information about CSE’s data from internal tools and people’s heads into Atlan.

2. “Data as a product” mindset

Each time that CSE’s data team received an ad-hoc question or request, they created clear, reusable documentation in Atlan to answer the user’s question.

They then sent the user the link to the documentation in Atlan, setting a standard that Atlan was the home of their data and anyone could find the information they needed in it.
I was pleasantly surprised at how easy it was for us.

I’ve never seen a partner who would be so genuinely interested in listening to our issues and trying to solve them for us. I hope Atlan won’t lose that spirit and dedication you have for your customers.

LARISA GOROKHOVA,
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE
All of Fausto’s work on building **data governance** migrated seamlessly to Atlan. Not just that, his entire workflow shifted to Atlan.

> Atlan will be part of my ongoing process for any new project that I have. As soon as I get a BRD from a business user, **I’ll be pointing them to the Atlan glossary**. For all the definitions or calculations they need, they have to refer to something that exists in Atlan.

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**FAUSTO HUEZO,**
Data Architect
Reshma used to spend hours finding data. Now, with Atlan’s powerful search, she’s done in **just minutes**.

Earlier, it would take a couple of hours. Now it takes me less than ten minutes to find what I need. **It’s just one click away.**

**RESHMA PATURI,**
Data Analyst
CSE employees could now make sense of all of their data with accuracy through Atlan’s **search, lineage, and data quality** capabilities.
Looking Ahead

With Atlan, CSE Insurance freed itself to deliver **better insurance solutions** through **better data**.
I’m not limiting access to just data analysts or business managers anymore. I want to tell people that if you want to learn about our data, you should be using Atlan.

LARISA GOROKHOVA, Director of Business Intelligence
Company collaboration

Atlan will become a collaborative workspace to help CSE Insurance make bigger & better decisions.

“Aside from the fact that [Atlan] allows us to do our data management properly, with our definitions and glossary, it’s actually a really nice way to collaborate.”

LARISA GOROKHOVA, Director of Business Intelligence

Tasks, conversations, and discussions

Atlan takes away the overwhelming feel of dealing with all your data and gets out of the way to let users create a curiosity-driven workspace.
Atlan isn’t just a data catalog. It is really a place for data people to collaborate, to discuss things, to join together. It’s a home for your data team.

LARISA GOROKHOVA,
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE
Learn how your data teams can do their lives’ best work at atlan.com

SEE A DEMO