Globaleaks by Whistleblowing Solutions

The open-source reporting platform that ensures data protection, transparency, and compliance

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Introduction

In recent years, *whistleblowing* has taken on a central role in strengthening accountability and transparency in public and private organizations.

European legislation, in particular **Directive (EU) 2019/1937**, has imposed stricter standards for the protection of persons reporting breaches of EU and national law, safeguarding whistleblowers from retaliation and ensuring secure channels for collecting reports.

The Italian legislator implemented this directive through **Legislative Decree No. 24/2023**, which regulates whistleblowing systems in line with the most recent regulatory requirements, extending obligations also to private organizations beyond certain size and sectoral thresholds.

In this context, **Whistleblowing Solutions** has established itself as an innovative social enterprise committed to the development of open-source tools dedicated to the protection of whistleblowers and the fight against corruption.

As the original author of **GlobaLeaks**, one of the most widely used open-source whistleblowing systems in the world, the company promotes transparency, the protection of digital rights, and the adoption of verifiable, secure technologies fully compliant with European and national regulations.

Opportunity

Before the introduction of a comprehensive regulatory framework on whistleblowing, the market offered few solutions specifically dedicated to the secure management of reports. In this context, the **GlobaLeaks** project represented a pioneering initiative, building on over fifteen years of research in the field, and oriented from the outset toward the protection of the whistleblower and the security of communications as top priorities.

The regulatory changes of recent years have generated strong demand for digital whistleblowing platforms capable of combining security, compliance, and transparency. Whistleblowing Solutions, which for over a decade had already been developing this type of software and collaborating with large private companies and organizations that were able to grasp, earlier than others, the scope and strategic organizational importance of whistleblowing, identified the new legislation as an opportunity to refine and enhance its offering.

This evolution has made it possible to strengthen the solution in terms of technology, data processing, and infrastructure. In the latter area, opportunities for **collaboration with Seeweb** and the resulting consolidation of the platform have led to the current offering, capable of effectively meeting the highest regulatory and security requirements.

Solution

Whistleblowing Solutions' offering is a whistleblowing platform designed as an **integrated system**, in which software and infrastructure architecture work together to ensure security, confidentiality, and regulatory compliance throughout the entire lifecycle of a report.

At the core of the solution is **GlobaLeaks**, an open-source software that enables the secure and transparent collection and management of reports. The open-source nature of the project allows for public verification of the code and operating logic, an essential requirement for systems that handle highly sensitive information and must guarantee the protection of whistleblowers' identities.

At the system level, the platform is based on a consolidated open-source ecosystem. **Debian** is adopted as the operating system for its stability, security, and transparency, while **Proxmox** and **OPNsense** are **used respectively as the hypervisor and perimeter firewall**, as alternatives to traditional proprietary solutions such as VMware and Fortinet. This provides greater control over the virtual infrastructure and network traffic, while maintaining coherent alignment with the principles of technological sovereignty and verifiability.

This software architecture is supported by an enterprise-grade hardware infrastructure designed for **mission-critical** environments, implemented through a **Virtual Private Cloud** provided by Seeweb via a computing cluster based on **HPE Synergy 480 Gen11** modules and **Fibre Channel** storage, and configured to ensure high efficiency, availability, and operational continuity.

For resilience purposes, the solution uses two leading data centers: the **Milan Caldera** site for service delivery and the **Frosinone** site for backup purposes.

Strategic collaboration with Seeweb

To deliver this solution with high levels of reliability and compliance, Whistleblowing Solutions has chosen **Seeweb** as its infrastructure partner. This collaboration makes it possible to host the service on a **European cloud with data centers located in Italy**, ensuring that data are processed in accordance with European data protection regulations.

Seeweb adheres to the **CISPE Code of Conduct**, which ensures GDPR compliance for cloud environments and grants customers full protection of data processed within the European Union.

This integration of open-source software and a compliant cloud infrastructure creates a product that is not only technically robust, but also aligned with the regulatory and organizational requirements of Public Administrations and large enterprises.

Results

Thanks to this integration of open-source technologies and compliant cloud infrastructure, Whistleblowing Solutions has reached a growing number of users, **serving more than 6,000 Public Administration organizations and over 150 private entities**, including major banking groups and regulated companies, supporting them in managing reports in a secure, transparent, and compliant manner with European and national regulations.

The solution enables organizations to meet legal whistleblowing requirements, reducing exposure to risks related to the processing of sensitive data and promoting an internal culture oriented toward legality and integrity.

Conclusion

The Whistleblowing Solutions project represents a concrete example of how an open-source approach, integrated with a compliant cloud infrastructure such as that offered by Seeweb, can meet the **regulatory, technological, and organizational needs** of a complex phenomenon like whistleblowing.

The selection and adoption of free and open-source software, together with complete and publicly available architectural documentation, allows anyone - supervisory authorities, independent experts, and the academic community - to verify the operation of every system component, analyze the code, and understand how data are processed and how whistleblowers' identities are protected.

The collaboration between Whistleblowing Solutions and Seeweb has therefore made possible an offering that not only meets the requirements of the GDPR and EU Directive 2019/1937, but also lays the foundations for **a more transparent, secure, and technologically sovereign European** digital ecosystem.

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Virtual Private Cloud

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