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IMPACT

From generating their ideas to finally launching their website, the whole process to publish took about a year. However, the AFWERX team appreciated the ability to start designing in a Pages sandbox while the procurement process was taking place. Once everything was in place, it took about 30 mins to launch the brand new AFWERX website.

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INSTANT TIME SAVINGS



Due to contracting challenges on the AFWERX side, the team was able to leverage a Pages sandbox to create their website so that by the time the contracts were in place, the website itself went live within 30 minutes.

CHALLENGE

AFWERX helps the Air Force engage with industry, academia and non-traditional contributors to foster an Air Force culture of innovation. The AFWERX team needed a fully compliant, Fedramp approved solution for their website. The internal solution on offer wasn't as customizable as AFWERX needed it to be (through control of CSS/JavaScript/HTML) and couldn't use an S3 bucket. Their main objectives for a new solution were:

- an application that would appeal to internal DoD (a Government solution);
- an appealing and clear design that would help their customers understand their mission;
- and a way to track analytics on the backend.

PROCESS

The AFWERX team had heard about Pages, and their DC location made it easy for them to visit 18F/GSA to learn more. AFWERX was thrilled to hear that 18F offered a cloud-based, FedRAMP approved platform, since so many of their own solutions were also cloud-based. Determined to have a well-designed, modern website, AFWERX knew they wanted to partner with a design firm who would bring the very best practices and design processes to realize their vision. The team was really happy that Pages gave them the flexibility to choose their own template designers. They found it challenging to convince their stakeholders to adopt a public cloud solution, since cloud was so new and hard to understand. But because Pages is a fully managed, FedRAMP-approved web hosting capability, the stakeholders soon realized that it would reduce the complexity of having to start from scratch.

We liked [Pages] because it was a great website design, it met our mission needs, we have 100% control, and it was compliant

— AFWERX team member