

Slingshot Aerospace: White Glove Service to CMMC Level 2 Certification in Five Months

Client Snapshot

Industry: Defense / Space
Operations Intelligence and
Autonomy (SOIA)

Employees: 100–200

Headquarters: Windsor, Colorado

Stage: Series A2

Compliance Scope: CMMC
Level 2 in 5 months

Overview

For Slingshot Aerospace, CMMC Level 2 certification was the price of admission for the government contracts they wanted to win.

Getting there meant a significant lift: reviewing 20+ government contracts, completing a full migration from Google Workspace to Microsoft GCC (Government Community Cloud), building out a government-grade network from scratch in their Colorado office, and doing it all without slowing down a business in the middle of executing on those same contracts.

Treeline* didn't hand Slingshot a checklist; they embedded directly into the team and owned the work, end-to-end. As Erik, Slingshot CTO, shared: **“There were people at our company that didn't even know certain team members worked for [Treeline].”**

Achieving this level of government certification typically takes 12-18 months; Treeline delivered in five. Slingshot walked away fully certified and won an eight-figure government contract that would not have been accessible otherwise.

Challenge

● TECHNICAL CONTRACT REVIEW

Slingshot held 20+ government contracts (some direct, others through primes). Each had to be scoped against CMMC Level 2, ITAR, and Export Control requirements.

● CONTROLS BUILDOUT

CMMC Level 2 requires demonstrated evidence against all 110 NIST 800-171 controls, which had to be developed and maintained throughout operational changes.

● MIGRATION GAPS

After the migration of data to Microsoft GCC, additional security controls were needed to meet CMMC Level 2 certification requirements.

● COST FORECASTING

The full cost of certification across tooling, resources, and implementation needed to be accurately forecasted before work could begin.

● OPERATIONAL CONTINUITY RISK

A project of this scale, involving 140+ employees, risked slowing business momentum at a critical stage of growth.

*The engagement was delivered by the Red Cup IT team, now part of Treeline.

Solution

● EMBEDDED TEAM

Treeline operated as part of Slingshot's team throughout the project.

● CONTROL OWNERSHIP

Treeline led the gap analysis across all 110 NIST 800-171 controls and 320 assessment objectives, ensuring continuous execution of the security program during operational changes.

● DESIGN THROUGH DELIVERY

Treeline designed the government-grade network architecture and managed execution end-to-end, including building data loss prevention policies and security controls into enterprise wide firewalls and Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA) solutions.

● FLEXIBLE ENVIRONMENT SUPPORT

Slingshot's environment included tools beyond Microsoft GCC. Treeline configured and integrated Zscaler, CrowdStrike, Okta, Keeper Security, BeyondTrust, Verkada, Vanta, and Paramify to ensure full compliance across the hybrid environment.

● OUTCOME-BASED EXECUTION

The scope was defined by outcomes. When new gaps surfaced mid-project, Treeline resolved them hands-on rather than re-scoping the engagement.

● STRATEGIC ADVISORY

Every major architecture and infrastructure decision was tailored to Slingshot's goals and budget, including accurate cost forecasting at the outset, resolving operational debt and building infrastructure to support their next phase of growth.

Results

CMMC Level 2 certified on time and on budget, with all findings identified and resolved before the final audit.

Eight-figure government contract won, with CMMC certification as a prerequisite for eligibility.

New network built and operational at Slingshot's Colorado office, fully compliant with CMMC Level 2 government data requirements.

Scaled from 140 to 160+ employees during the engagement without disrupting operations.

Slingshot remains a Treeline client today.

"Treeline provided a nuanced, strategic approach to our specific journey to achieving a security framework."

- Erik Ekwurzel, CTO, Slingshot Aerospace