

Multi Screen Media Private Limited implements DIGIPASS into its SSL/VPN solution to secure remote access

Sony Pictures Television International (SPTI) backs Multi Screen Media Private Limited (MSM), which is among the regions leading television channel operators. The company deployed an in-house SSL/VPN solution allowing IT staff and travelling employees to remotely access corporate resources and applications. To ensure access for authorized staff only, Sony Entertainment Television implemented VASCO's two-factor authentication technology, bypassing the weaknesses of traditional static passwords.

SONY



Entertainment Television

Multi Screen Media Private Limited (MSM) comprises of Sony Entertainment Television (SET), one of India's leading Hindi general entertainment television channels; MAX, India's premium movies and special events channel; SAB, a Hindi channel focusing on entertaining modern India; and PIX, a channel that airs Hollywood movie products.

Since its launch in October 1995, the company created an impressive portfolio of programs ranging from the light-hearted to the supernatural, exploring various genres complimented by a mix of glamorous events and Bollywood blockbusters reaching more than 42 million households in India alone. Additionally, SET is also available in the United States, United Kingdom, Africa, Middle-East, Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives and Malaysia; reaching over 300 million households worldwide.

STATIC PASSWORDS INADEQUATE FOR REMOTE USE

In order to allow its IT staff and telecommuters to access the corporate network and its resources, MSM implemented an in-house SSL/VPN solution. However, with increasing numbers of remote users needing to access business-critical applications, confidential documents and other sensitive information; security became a top priority. MSM wanted something more secure than traditional password/username combinations by adding an extra security layer to ensure that only authorized staff could gain access to corporate resources through VPN.

"Remote access to our corporate network and its applications has yielded huge

productivity benefits, but security risks have increased accordingly", states Ajay Kumar Meher, CIO at Multi Screen Media Pvt. Ltd. "Static passwords are extremely inadequate for remote and mobile users; posing vast risks as they can be easily guessed or hacked. We therefore quickly decided to deploy strong two-factor authentication; a much more secure means of authenticating users onto networks as it requires two separate security elements."

DIGIPASS TECHNOLOGY IS 'BEST FIT'

After conducting a requirements analysis, MSM evaluated a number of two-factor authentication solutions from various vendors. Ultimately, MSM decided on VASCO's DIGIPASS technology as the solution was the 'best fit' for its security needs.

"VASCO's authentication solutions distinguished itself from competitors, due to its low total cost of ownership", Ajay Kumar Meher said. "The DIGIPASS technology could be seamlessly integrated into our existing SLL/VPN solution. What's more, we were not required to buy additional costly, specialized hardware or to install supplementary software on end-users' PCs."

"Furthermore, VASCO's DIGIPASS devices are very cost-effective as they have an extended battery lifetime of up to seven years, depending on use. We can gradually replace the devices as they expire, spreading costs and reducing logistic issues as we don't need to replace the devices all at once."

The integration process of VASCO's authentication solution into MSM's SSL/VPN solution went quite smoothly. "We experienced some minor issues during the set-up phase, but these were quickly solved thanks to VASCO's professional support services. No other issues occurred during the implementation and roll-out phase. All in all, everything went surprisingly well", said Ajay Kumar Meher.



SECURE REAL-TIME ACCESS ANYWHERE

MSM's IT staff and travelling workforce were all equipped with DIGIPASS GO 6, a one-button authenticator that generates dynamic one-time passwords. Since the passwords expire after a limited period of time, hacking is virtually impossible.

Employees simply log-on to the network using one-time password generated by the DIGIPASS device. Once this password has been validated by the VACMAN software suite, access is granted. "With DIGIPASS, our remote users and IT staff have real-time access to our business applications, anywhere in the world at any given time, without compromising security," Ajay Kumar Meher told us.

CONVINCED OF BENEFITS STRONG AUTHENTICATION YIELDS

DIGIPASS quickly overcame initial opposition from its users who found it cumbersome having to carry a hardware security device around. "Our end-users rapidly discovered the benefits of DIGIPASS", said Ajay Kumar Meher.

"As a result of the increased security, they are able to work remotely and secure from anywhere as if they were at the office. They no longer have to remember passwords and rely upon IT support to reset forgotten passwords. User acceptance was also boosted by the fact that DIGIPASS GO 6 is a very straightforward device that is almost self-explanatory in its use. Where end-users may have been sceptical and wary at first, they are now truly convinced of the benefits of strong authentication."

DIGIPASS added an extra security layer to MSM's SSL/VPN solution, improving data security and allowing employees to remotely access corporate data and applications. The combination DIGIPASS – VACMAN allowed MSM to deploy a comprehensive, scalable, high performance two-factor authentication solution for secure network access.

Objective

MSM wanted to provide its employees worldwide with secure remote access to its corporate network and mission-critical applications without compromising security. The company wanted to add an extra security layer to its SSL/VPN solution by implementing some form of authentication.

About MSM

Sony Pictures Television International (SPTI) backs Multi Screen Media Private Limited (MSM), which is among the regions leading television channel operators. It comprises of Sony Entertainment Television (SET), one of India's leading Hindi general entertainment television channels; MAX, India's premium movies and special events channel; SAB, a Hindi channel focusing on entertaining modern India; PIX, a channel that airs Hollywood movie product.

About VASCO

VASCO is a leading supplier of strong authentication and e-signature solutions and services specializing in Internet Security applications and transactions. VASCO has positioned itself as global software company for Internet Security and designs, develops, markets and supports patented DIGIPASS®, DIGIPASS PLUS®, VACMAN®, IDENTIKEY® and aXsGUARD® authentication products. VASCO's prime markets are the financial sector, enterprise security, e-commerce and e-government.

www.vasco.com



Ajay Kumar Meher, CIO at Multi Screen Media Pvt. Ltd

Challenge

The solution had to be fully compliant with MSM's existing SSL/VPN solution. The authentication process needed to be straightforward ensuring high user-acceptance.

Solution

VASCO's DIGIPASS technology combined with the VACMAN Middleware software suite, allowed MSM to secure its SSL/VPN solution in a very cost-effective manner. The authentication solution was seamlessly integrated into the existing back-end infrastructure using RADIUS protocol. Employees can now securely access the corporate network and its applications anywhere, anytime using DIGIPASS GO 6.

BRUSSELS (Europe)

phone: +32 2 609 97 00
email: info-europe@vasco.com

BOSTON (North America)

phone: +1 508 366 3400
email: info-usa@vasco.com

SYDNEY (Pacific)

phone: +61 2 8061 3700
email: info-australia@vasco.com

SINGAPORE (Asia)

phone: +65 6323 0906
email: info-asia@vasco.com