Prayon implements aXsGUARD Gatekeeper to secure its network, VPN and e-mail traffic

Prayon is a world leader in the phosphate sector. To make sure its network is secured and well monitored, Prayon has installed aXsGUARD Gatekeeper Enterprise. Decisive factors were high availability and strong support. It is very important to Prayon that the corporate information remains secure at all times. aXsGUARD Gatekeeper provides the company with an easy to manage solution tailored to its needs.

Belgium's based Prayon Group is today a world leader in phosphate chemicals, with 20 companies in more than 10 countries. From its sites around the world, Prayon produces and sells a wide range of both phosphate products (phosphoric acids and derived salts) and fluorine products. Although virtually unknown to the general public, they are widely used as raw materials in the manufacture of finished products, such as foods (baked goods, meat, process cheese, fish and seafood, cereals, fruits and vegetables), drinks and pharmaceuticals (toothpaste, oral hygiene products). They are also used in various industrial applications.

STRONG REPUTATION AND EXCELLENT SUPPORT

To be able to protect the corporate network and to ensure that employees can access the internet, e-mails and applications in a secure way, Prayon wanted to implement a straightforward solution to replace the existent solution in place.

"We were looking for a solution that had some supplementary functionality like the reports that say which threats are blocked by the firewall and the reasons why. Our previous solution did not cover all our needs. CELEM has helped us to look at different solutions and we decided to partner with VASCO as they have built a strong reputation in securing applications in the financial world", says Richard Zajaczkowski, IT Manager at Prayon.

"We installed aXsGUARD Gatekeeper since we believe it is the most comprehensive solution on the market. We read a lot of positive news about VASCO in the press and we think it is a huge advantage that VASCO is based in Belgium. We were looking for a vendor with a customer support service that is easy to contact and provides us with all the necessary support. We can confidently say that we have found the customer support service of VASCO of a very high quality and that we are very happy with the implemented solution", Richard Zajaczkowski says.

Since Prayon implemented aXsGUARD Gatekeeper system downtimes have been reduced to zero. System stability is further assured by the synchronization of data between two connected aXsGUARD appliances. If a hardware failure occurs or the Internet connection with the main system is lost, the back-up system will take over all tasks without disrupting network service.

SECURE NETWORK ACCESS FOR ALL OFFICES

Prayon wanted to implement a solution that could assure safe access for the employees to the Prayon network anywhere and at any time. To secure the corporate data contained in the network, the company deployed aXsGUARD's SSL VPN module. This allows Prayon to create so called e-tunnels between two VPN points for each VPN connection. These tunnels provide a high level of security to protect the transmitted data. They allow all traffic to be passed through the same e-tunnel and the system will automatically back up all information without any human intervention.

Furthermore, all configurations of the network are supported by standard static routes that are easy to configure with complete access-control through firewall rights. Since all configurations are done on the aXsGUARD, the users don't experience any difficulties to connect to the corporate network. All they have to do is remember the link to the portal to have access to all files and applications which makes it a very user-friendly solution that is easy to manage.

PROTECTION AGAINST MALICIOUS SOFTWARE

aXsGUARD Gatekeeper allows Prayon to secure its network in a very effective way. By implementing the anti-phising and anti-spam modules, the company can keep its network free from malware at any time.

"It is almost impossible to provide all the computers in our network with anti-spyware and anti-phising software. By implementing aXsGUARD, malware is stopped at the gateway; so there is no longer any need to deploy specialized software on each end-user's PC", Richard Zajaczkowski states.

To be able to block the malware, VASCO uses different services, pattern files and blacklists. These blacklists are updated on a regular basis and the updates are communicated to the system administrator by e-mail so

he knows when changes have been made. aXsGUARD is a multi layered defense system.

"We had a lot of spam problems in the past, but since we implemented VASCO's aXsGUARD solution the spam problem has been reduced significantly. Our e-mails for example, are checked before they come into our mailbox. Not only the e-mail address but also the content is scanned for malicious URL's. And an added advantage of the aXsGUARD is that the appliance has an extensive reporting functionality to inform you about the blocked traffic which is obviously very useful to us," says Richard Zajaczkowski.

CONTENT SCANNING TO CONTROL INTERNET USE AND E-MAIL TRAFFIC

aXsGUARD's content scanner offers a complete solution to keep track of Internet and e-mail traffic. This can be done by configuring an URL or webfilter. E-mail traffic can also be filtered based on domain name, servers or individual designed blacklists.

Furthermore, administrators are able to adapt the rules to a certain user group. Different users for instance, will have different access rights.
Prayon is now able to control all mail and Internet traffic in an easy and effective way.

"We are very pleased that it was so easy for us to implement a solution that covers all or security needs. The easy configuration and the monitoring of all traffic definitely makes the aXsGUARD the perfect solution for us", Richard Zajaczkowski tells us.

Objective
Implement a comprehensive security solution to secure Prayon's network, VPN and e-mail traffic.

Challenge
User-friendliness from an administrative point of view was a decisive factor. Furthermore stability and support were top priorities.

Solution
Prayon implemented aXsGUARD Gatekeeper Enterprise solution. High availability and excellent support ensure that downtime is non-existent. Administrators can easily configure the security settings tailored to the company's policies and needs.

About Prayon

Prayon is a world leader in the phosphate sector. The Group manufactures an extensive range of phosphate and fluorine products that are used in food applications, industrial applications, fertilizers and other applications such as pharmaceuticals. Belgium's based Prayon Group is today a world leader in phosphate chemicals, with 20 companies in more than 10 countries.

About CELEM

CELEM is a company specialized in the installation and assembly of PCs and servers for professional use. They also provide complete security solutions and network installations to companies (Telecom, Internet, Firewall, VPN).

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.

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