BCC has two main goals: To become the number one cloud service provider on the Japanese Island of Kyushu and to bundle its cloud offerings with reliable security services. To accomplish these objectives, the company has implemented multiple solutions from FireEye to create the backbone of its information security strategy. The positive effects were immediately evident, and the company plans to extend security service offerings utilizing the FireEye solutions to its customers in the near future.

Due to BCC’s location in Fukuoka, ties with provincial companies and the local government are strong. Isao Tanaka, director of public authorities for BCC’s business division, stated, “There is little distance between us and the customer; understanding their character is one of our greatest strengths. While many leading systems integrators have a branch in Fukuoka, our advantage is truly understanding these local companies.”
In 2012, BCC split into three divisions; public sector, private enterprise, and cloud services. Of the latter Tanaka noted, “It aims to be the number one cloud service provider.” In BCC “the cloud” pertains to the provision of a common infrastructure and integrated operations management, and a variety of services have been planned to accompany its cloud service portal solutions. For example, it plans to provide threat detection, analysis, and communication; a total security service to combat threats in one step.

To ensure customer safety, BCC conducted a company-wide review of security measures and its CIO, Toshinao Nagahama — who has responsibility for overall security across BCC — saw to it that the company attained ISO 27001 certification for information security management. However, BCC continues to perform internal scans of the whole business to identify new threats and risks in an effort to determine how to immediately isolate, examine, and mitigate them. The evaluation is performed by a combination of IT and non-IT personnel, with senior management ultimately determining how to implement the recommendations to further advance security standards for BCC.

This continual self-improvement is essential to increase customer satisfaction: As a security provider, internal security breaches cannot be permitted. Nagahama noted, “Once we determined our security criteria, it was very rewarding to see the positive effect at work within the company and watch it help grow our business. Since the services have been proven in-house, we know we can provide it to our customers with confidence.”

**Protection from a targeted attack**

Back in 2013, a selection of security solutions had been introduced and implemented. However, these measures were found to be insufficient in preventing the latest targeted attacks. BCC’s “threat of targeted intelligence attack” was cited as the second largest in the year, according to the Information-Technology Promotion Agency (IPA). Nagahama knew he had to do something to respond to the serious situation.

The CIO conducted a comparative study, which resulted in the acquisition of a variety of products including the FireEye® Network Threat Prevention Platform and the FireEye® Email Threat Protection Platform. These solutions were paired with the FireEye® Central Management System to protect the intellectual assets of the company from multi-vector attacks.

BCC first introduced the FireEye Platforms as part of its core internal infrastructure. “In order to use secure cloud services confidently with customers, it was first necessary to solidify the defense against targeted attacks internally,” said Nagahama.

“FireEye has a proven track record and already has been adopted by several US Federal Government agencies,” reflected Nagahama. “In addition, FireEye came highly recommended by the senior infrastructure manager of a respected major company to whom we were introduced. In fact, I tried to tell that manager about other products I was considering but got the reply ‘Only FireEye.’

**FireEye detects a new threat**

The FireEye solutions have been running at BCC since July 2014, protecting 580 servers and 1,400 endpoints in the company data center. It has been detecting threats the previous security products could not. “We are able to find threats precisely because we introduced FireEye,” stated Nagahama. “We took this opportunity to make the company’s infrastructure more robust.

“For example, people organize attacks and malicious activities on social networks. These events are monitored by government agencies, but most often, these actions do not amount to an actual attack but the threats are real and are happening every day. Our security defenses detect suspicious movement with real-time alerts.”

Staying ahead of these threats is extremely important from both security and operational perspectives, consequently Nagahama has staff monitoring potential threats at all times. However, the quality of alerts from the FireEye Platforms removes a large burden from daily operations.
“We have realized the importance and quality of FireEye security measures in delivering a high-quality service.”

— Toshinao Nagahama, CIO, BCC Corporation

**FireEye’s exemplary service**

A large part of BCC’s customer base consists of local small- and medium-sized businesses active in Kyushu. Tanaka stated, “At BCC, we believe we can provide the cloud’s best security services. We have realized the importance and quality of FireEye security measures in delivering a high-quality service, and we encourage our customers to consider introducing FireEye to their environments too.”

In Japan, all citizens have a Social Security Number, and many administrative tasks contain this sensitive personal information, which increases the risk of damage from malicious attacks. The services BCC offers the government primarily focus on the implementation and maintenance of businesses and management systems. These contracts usually include requirements for facilities and operations, but are not as finely specified for network security.

Tanaka concluded, “As we look ahead, it is clear that there are increasing needs in security for government organizations and we want to be able to fully support the needs of each municipality with the help of FireEye.”

To learn more about FireEye, visit: [www.FireEye.com](http://www.FireEye.com)