CBC Cologne Broadcasting Center Achieves Worldwide Protection with Zero False Positives

Business challenge

Being part of today’s digital world means being connected. Ingo Rüber, IT systems and network manager at CBC, elaborated, “We have almost 3,000 employees within Mediagroup RTL but there are always thousands of additional users accessing our networks, including numerous independent journalists and production staff spread across the world. We permit the use of personal equipment, as well as company-issued laptops and desktops. Each one of these represents a potential channel for malware and web-based threats to enter our infrastructure.”

In addition to the wide variety of users and end-user platforms, the complexity of the CBC environment is further compounded by the need to use extremely diverse data types, ranging from short, text-based messages, through to massive video and audio files.
“We’re really excited about the FireEye NX Series Platform. It immediately proved its worth over our conventional security measures and has never given us a false positive.”

— Ingo Rüber, IT Systems and Network Manager, CBC Cologne Broadcasting Center

Solution
As part of its ongoing due diligence efforts to ensure the highest standards of data integrity, CBC commissioned an audit from an external IT security consulting partner. “Our overall strategy was deemed to be solid but there was a strong recommendation to supplement the traditional firewall, intrusion prevention system, and signature-based virus protection measures with a FireEye Network Threat Prevention Platform.” CBC took the advice and implemented the FireEye solution.

Manfred Knott, CBC network administrator, recalled, “Installation was extremely fast: It took less than a day. We also found the interface to be very intuitive and easy to learn; our security administrators quickly became self-sufficient.”

Business benefits
Rüber commented, “Even during the initial test phase we were immediately able to identify embedded malware that had previously evaded our existing defenses. It was clearly evident that the FireEye Platform was giving us visibility into the presence of previously undetectable threats.”

He continued, “FireEye automatically identifies malware, including zero-day web exploits and web drive-by downloads, and allows us to rapidly mitigate the threat. We have protection throughout our environment, irrespective of platform, browser, file content, or location. The Platform really has filled the gap left by conventional security products.”

With high volumes of network traffic there is always a concern that large amounts of legitimate data will be mistakenly flagged as containing potentially malicious content. Knott stated, “Since implementation we’ve never had even a single false positive!”

Rüber concluded, “I’m really happy with the performance of the FireEye NX Series Platform. Having such great cyber protection gives me the confidence that we’ve dramatically enhanced the level of security across the entire CBC environment.”

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