T··Mobile®

T-MOBILE OPTIMIZES CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND ENSURES COMPLIANCE WITH ALGOSEC

Leading Global Mobile Carrier Achieves Rapid ROI and Streamlines PCI Auditing Process

AlgoSec Business Impact

- Optimize all firewall rulesets and ensure compliance with company and PCI requirements
- Quickly prove compliance during internal or external audits
- Reduce resources needed to manage firewall change management processes and audits
- Provide clear and immediate evidence of outsourcers' compliance with T-Mobile's policies

Customer Name
T-Mobile UK

Line of Business
Mobile Telecommunications

Location
Hatfield, England,
United Kingdom

t-mobile.com

Background

T-Mobile is one of the world's largest mobile operators with more than 150 million customers worldwide and is the service provider of choice for 17 million customers in the UK.

Challenge

T-Mobile operates a highly complex network that includes scores of internal firewalls as well as a significant number of outsourced components, all of which must meet rigorous internal standards and maintain PCI-DSS compliance.

"The main challenges of managing firewalls and network policies come down to actually understanding the risk in your legacy firewalls rulesets and policies, and maintaining compliance," says Peter Erceg, Head of IT Security for T-Mobile. "Getting to the rulesets that are obviously weakening your environment and handling those before you're found to be noncompliant is an important part of security."

T-Mobile found that managing change control also created significant challenges, in terms of knowing what was actually changed in the firewall rulesets and in ensuring that changes did not negatively affect the network's compliance with PCI-DSS and internal standards.

MANAGE SECURITY **AT THE SPEED OF BUSINESS**

algosec

Solution

T-Mobile wanted a cost-effective solution that could help the company manage its firewalls and understand the risks associated with them. "We wanted a cost-effective product that would enable us to better manage our firewall rulesets, and we also wanted a partner that listened to our issues and concerns," Erceg says.

"That's where the AlgoSec Security Management solution really distinguished itself from the competition," notes Erceg. "We chose AlgoSec because right from the first meeting, it was obvious that they wanted to be a partner rather than just sell a product off the shelf."

On the technical side, AlgoSec also performed better than the other products T-Mobile considered. "During the technical analysis, the product stacked up very well against its competitors and our technical team was very pleased with the results and the analysis that came out of that."

Results

T-Mobile started with Algosec to help with security policy visibility and analysis. "We had a project that ran for six months to ensure that we went through all of the firewall rulesets and understood how they worked. At the end of the six months, all of our firewall rule sets were analyzed, properly documented and in the right state we needed for the company. They were then put on maintenance mode," explains Erceg.

At that point, the company used AlgoSec's security policy change automation to help with change management implementation. "We're sure that when we sign off on a change, that change is what is actually implemented on the firewall. If we didn't have a product like AlgoSec, there was a danger that within six to 12 months we would be back doing the original analysis again," Erceg notes.

Erceg was positively surprised by the financial benefits of implementing AlgoSec. "AlgoSec was very cost effective when we looked at the numbers. We found that mitigating issues around firewall rulesets is very resource intensive if you don't have the right tool, so the ROI from AlgoSec stacked up pretty quickly," he adds.

With AlgoSec, Erceg and his team also found that they could prove compliance very quickly to internal and PCI auditors. "The audit side of compliance took a lot less of our resources than it normally would," he adds.

"Another area where AlgoSec helps us is with managing our outsourcing," says Erceg. "We often ask outsourcers: 'How do you ensure that you're meeting our change control requirements?' AlgoSec has become an impartial party in this dialog and helps prove to us that the outsourcer is following our policies and meeting our compliance requirements. This helps tremendously when it comes to KPIs, SLAs and auditing and compliance."

"Our overall experience with AlgoSec for us has been a positive one," according to Erceg. "We've met and sometimes exceeded the objectives of the project. AlgoSec is a company I'd certainly recommend to anyone looking at managing their network security policies."

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Peter Erceg,
Head of IT Security, T-Mobile

Global Headquarters
65 Challenger Road, Suite 320
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660
USA
+1-888-358-3696

EMEA Headquarters
80 Coleman Street
London EC2R 5 BJ
United Kingdom
+44-207-099-7545

APAC Headquarters
10 Anson Road, #14-06
International Plaza
Singapore 079903
+65-3158-2120

AlgoSec.com