

Case Study

Discovery for Australian Energy Company

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Using ditno Network Firewall to enable an Australian energy company to secure and efficiently manage hybrid environments

With teams in approximately 100 locations across Australia, this organization is a major regional employer in the utility sector, servicing over 800,000 regional, rural and remote homes and businesses. Their systems and the data within are critical and maximum uptime is essential for them to operate effectively.

Problem

The client's IT team had an urgent need to efficiently utilize hybrid environments (internal plus AWS, Azure and Google) in order to enable agility for the business. They had adopted cloud in order to enable workloads to be moved around based on business need.

Securing all of the different environments required a significant amount of operational overhead in order to ensure that there was consistent application of policies.

Solution

Ditno was tasked with helping to understand the communication flows of the existing applications that were hosted internally and on the public cloud. We observed the communication flows between internal and cloud environments through ditno's portal, the integrated rule builder then assisted by recommending the exact rules that should be applied in order to enable the applications to effectively operate whilst minimizing exposure.

The client's IT team had already configured policies directly onto the native security capabilities within the individual cloud providers - this amounted to more than 100 rules in one of the providers which were simplified to 10, the remainder were optimized and stored within ditno Network Firewall to ensure consistency and the ability to dynamically change.

Need to utilize secure Hybrid environments to enable business agility

High operational overhead due to management of environments independently

Install ditno agent to monitor network flows across environments

Use ditno discovery and automation tools to optimize rules and centralize management through a single portal

All communications to SaaS and PaaS environments were identified and secured as part of the engagement. The ditno management portal was configured to enable the client to see all controls across all environments irrespective of where they are hosted.

“ ditno enabled us to standardize our controls regardless of the environment. This enabled us to create repeatable patterns and significantly reduce the time required to update policies ”

- Client Chief Technology Officer

	Benefits
Consistent security policies across all environments	There were three main benefits from utilizing ditno Network Firewall. The first was in the ability to ensure that security policies were applied across all environments in real-time. This increased the confidence of the organization in utilizing a variety of cloud platform providers and enabling the agility the business had requested.
Significant reduction in operational overheads	Secondly the operational overhead was significantly decreased, not only with updating security policies but also in troubleshooting connectivity issues between environments – the ditno portal could easily determine where new applications had been deployed but the necessary rules had not been implemented.
Automation of deployment with zero touch security	Thirdly the client was able to implement zero touch security which meant they were able to automate the deployment of their services safe in the knowledge that they would be secure. The solution also integrated directly with their SIEM platform so that they had an even deeper understanding of what was happening across their network at all times.
Notifications of abnormal behaviour	

Cloud agnostic
operational
capabilities with
the ability to
dynamically shift
workloads based
on business need

Result

The client was now truly cloud agnostic with consistent risk profiles across all environments. They were able to dynamically shift workloads between environments based on business need without previous technical limitations.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact us at:

www.ditno.com