

Case Study

Discovery for Australian Law Firm

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Using ditno Network Firewall to enable one of Australia's largest law firms to migrate to the cloud

Employing more than 500 staff across Australia, this client is one of the most prestigious corporate law firms in the country. They work on a number of complex transactions domestically and internationally, holding a significant amount of sensitive data on behalf of their own clients. They have a variety of systems to support this growing business and are continuously looking to improve performance, resilience and security of the 250+ servers they own.

Problem

The client has a relatively modest IT team of 25 technical operations staff and were tasked with a number of strategic initiatives to enhance the platforms in a variety of ways. They required greater understanding of the network traffic in order to determine the best way to implement the initiatives without impacting the end business users.

The network was relatively flat however it wasn't clear which services were exposed to which apps and which had not been used for an extended period. The client also employed a number of external vendors to support the systems and it was not possible to understand what they could connect to or how to protect the individual IT services. The client didn't want to implement a new hardware solution or install tools that would simply provide information to them, they wanted a solution that would enable them to see what was going on and quickly build a strong security baseline.

Solution

Ditno was tasked with creating a clear picture of what was happening across the network and providing guidance as to the best way to consider security in context of the strategic initiatives which included migration to Hybrid cloud. The solution would enable the internal IT team to easily understand the flows without the need for external consultants. Further, the solution should provide ongoing visibility rather than a simple snapshot of what is currently happening.

The ditno team worked with the client to define how the services should be grouped based on their future requirements for micro-segmentation. The lightweight ditno Network Firewall agent

Understand services and network flows

External vendors require full network access

Fast Implementation

Unrestricted east-west connectivity

Install ditno Network Firewall on key servers

Run Discovery to log network traffic and understand flows

Segment by IT services

was then installed on hundreds of servers within a few minutes. Once installed the servers appeared in the management console and the grouping could be easily implemented, it was then a case of leaving the system to learn relationships between the groups and applications.

“ We were amazed by how much information we were able to obtain about the network flows without investing in specialized discovery tools. ”

- Client Chief Technology Officer

Benefits

The client was able to have full visibility of IT service activity across their entire network. They could understand which of these services were exposed externally and determine their risk profile.

Additionally, other vulnerabilities were surfaced that could easily be mitigated by blocking non-essential protocols, ensuring correct DNS setting were used etc. The solution also surfaced examples of development boxes talking to production environments and vice versa.

Result

Within a very short period of time from the initial engagement of ditno the client was able to understand exactly what was happening across their network and determine what would be required to mitigate the risks.

They were able to then move ahead with their plans to implement micro-segmentation and simplify cloud migration and configuration - the strategic initiatives that were at the time the most important to the client's IT management team.

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

www.ditno.com