

Challenge

- Protect customer and internal data against unauthorized leakage from the network
- Implement a solution quickly and cost-effectively
- Avoid adding a significant administrative burden

Solution

- Code Green TrueDLP™ solution accurately classifies, filters, and blocks unauthorized data transfers on the network, at user endpoints, and in storage
- Deployment within one day with payback within two days
- Low false positive rate makes administration manageable

First Technology Credit Union Plugs Data Leaks with Code Green Solution

First Technology Credit Union (First Tech) serves employees of technology and other industries through 16 branches in the Pacific Northwest. Its founders were Tektronix employees in Oregon, and since the beginning in 1952 the company has offered its members a number of technical innovations. It was an early adopter of online banking, pioneered wireless banking, and was among the first to create a shared branch and ATM network. First Tech merged with Oregon's State Employees Credit Union (SECU) in 2002, and merged with Oregon Metro Credit Union in Eugene in 2004.

Choosing Code Green Networks TrueDLP™

To ensure that its innovations fulfill First Tech's prime directive of protecting depositor funds, the institution conducts an internal security audit and evaluates new security technologies each year. According to Rob McGee, director of the Information Security program at First Tech, this audit "looks at all of our controls, policies, and procedures, and goes above and beyond any specific issue that we might have found during the year." For example, McGee says, he looks at the performance of the institution's firewall products, and does research to determine whether another product might be a better fit.

It was during one such annual audit three years ago that McGee became aware of the data leakage threat. "This was really before there was even a group of products targeted at data loss prevention," he says. "I became aware that it would be very difficult to detect any of our 450 users transferring sensitive data using a corporate e-mail account."

McGee began researching this new area of security, attending conferences and webinars to learn which solutions were emerging and how they performed. To make sure the solution was comprehensive; he looked for one that could protect data in motion over the internal network, at rest in storage, and in use at user desktops. Ultimately, First Tech selected Code Green Networks' TrueDLP solution because it delivered the protection McGee wanted at a price he wanted to pay.

"This is still a fairly new technology," he says, "and I didn't want to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on something that was still evolving. I also felt that even with the world's best DLP technology, nothing is 100 percent foolproof. For example, someone could take a picture of data with a cell phone, or relay sensitive information on a phone call. Until we're checking people's bags at the door and have voice and video monitoring on all communications, there will always be the potential for data leaks."

While DLP is an important new tool in his technology arsenal, McGee felt that it was best to go with a relatively simple and cost-effective solution. "Why would I spend \$150,000 on a product with multiple devices, four servers, four server licenses, more hardware, more things to deal with, and more things sucking power in my data center? I wanted something relatively inexpensive, and simple to deploy," he says. "Code Green had a very attractive price, and the people I talked with who had tried the Code Green solution said that they just plugged it in and it started working."

Implementing Code Green Networks TrueDLP™

As a result, McGee purchased a Code Green CI-1500 appliance with 500 CI Agent licenses for use at user desktops and storage servers. "We deployed it in a day," he says. Thanks to the policy-driven data classification and filtering and the availability of industry-specific document libraries and templates, McGee could quickly characterize the sensitive data on his network and enforce policies to encrypt it or prevent its transfer outside the network.

Despite the simplicity of deployment and the relatively low cost, the Code Green CI-1500 appliance offers sophisticated data filtering capabilities that allow the credit union to block transfers of customer account numbers, PIN numbers, and other important data. And although the TrueDLP appliance includes built-in e-mail encryption, McGee chose to continue using the separate encryption server that he already had in use for that task.

Since deployment in the second quarter of 2008, the TrueDLP solution has added a new layer of protection and has brought McGee new peace of mind without requiring laborious administration. The system automatically alerts him via e-mail whenever sensitive data could be misused, and he addresses those that fall above a certain risk threshold. "Since the data filtering is so accurate," McGee says, "false positives aren't a big problem."

With its high accuracy, rapid deployment, and cost-effective capital and management costs, the Code Green TrueDLP solution has given First Tech a way to manage its data leakage issues with minimal impact on overall operations. According to McGee, "Of all the systems I'm aware of, Code Green TrueDLP met our needs far better than anything else out there."

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Director Information Security
First Tech Credit Union

About Code Green Networks

Code Green Networks delivers data loss prevention solutions that protect private employee and customer information and safeguard intellectual property across all electronic communications channels. The company's easy-to-deploy, easy-to-manage content inspection appliances rapidly detect and prevent potential data leaks, helping organizations automate compliance and mitigate risks from internal breaches that can result in loss of revenue, financial penalties and irreparable damage to a corporation's image, brand and customer loyalty.



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