

CASE STUDY: GLOBAL FLEXIBILITY

Lawter – Better, cleaner chemistry

Lawter is a global supplier of resins and additives to the graphics arts, adhesives, aroma chemicals, synthetic rubber, and specialty coating industries with a sixty-year history. The company operates in over 20 countries across three continents, with 11 manufacturing and technology centers. Its strengths are formulating technology, strategically sourcing raw material and providing a global network of manufacturing capabilities.

The Challenge

Lawter operates with a highly distributed company IT infrastructure. The corporate network is made up of 15 locations spanning the globe from Argentina to APAC. When the new Global Network and Security Manager started at Lawter, he came up with a list of requirements that needed to be tackled to optimize the security and network infrastructure. Staff mobility and remote access to the corporate network had to be taken into consideration, as well as improved Web Security, Data Loss Prevention and productivity in the social media age. With an Office 365 implementation pending, bandwidth prioritization and performance improvements augmented the list of requirements that had to be handled by a small IT team.

In the existing network set-up, all remote access had to be tunneled to headquarters and scanned by a firewall, increasing network latency. In order to improve the performance of Internet traffic, local breakouts were required on three different continents. Since Lawter did not want to implement and manage additional network hardware, adding security appliances was not a solution.

The Solution

When the functionality and costs of four different solutions were compared, a cloud-based model proved to be the logical choice to not only meet the security requirement of implementing policies uniformly for mobile staff, but also optimizing the network in the light of a planned move towards Office 365. The Zscaler Web Security SaaS platform offered all the required security features and DLP technology. Furthermore, it allowed productivity improvements by implementing Web 2.0 policies—for example, restricting social media access during working hours—and Guest Wifi access policies can be implemented in a manner consistent with corporate policies. The Lawter IT team was able to meet all demands with Zscaler's cloud-based approach. This highly integrated solution provided a streamlined migration path that could be handled with limited resources, adding security while reducing costs and traffic on the MPLS network.



THE CHALLENGE

- Improve Internet security with a highly integrated solution
- Security solution to cover mobile and remote workers
- Performance improvement for Internet traffic as well as facilitating a planned Office 365 implementation

SOLUTION EVALUATION

- The functionality of four different solutions was compared and met a long list of requirements that span from security to network optimization and bandwidth control.
- Zscaler's cloud-based approach was the logical choice to meet the mobility and performance requirements

THE ZSCALER DIFFERENCE

- Broadened security scope against modern malware
- Office 365 traffic prioritized
- Centralized management and reporting functionality

The Zscaler Difference

Advanced Security and Mobile Security

Zscaler's Web Security suite is providing Lawter with extensive scanning functionality against modern malware threats including viruses, botnets and zero-day exploits, which are detected and blocked in the cloud. URL filtering and Web 2.0 features are applied based on company policies, which prevent low productivity at work and loss of sensitive data. Along with the installed firewall at Lawter, Zscaler adds an additional security layer to cover the mobile workforce.

Network Performance Optimized

The cloud-based solution provides security with exceptionally low latency and requires no hardware or software to be maintained. Since Internet traffic no longer has to be backhauled to Lawter's principle data centers for appliance-based security scanning, the company is saving considerable MPLS traffic bandwidth, while Zscaler's bandwidth control capability is essential to the pending Office 365 installation. As Zscaler supports SAML, Single Sign On user authentication can be easily accomplished using cloud-based federation identity providers like Okta.

Easy-to-Manage Solution

Since the service is based entirely in the cloud, this helps the small IT team stay on top of its game and keep track of security challenges. The ease of migration to Zscaler was another advantage of the solution. "Zscaler offers us the flexibility we were looking for. As we have to cope with different scenarios with remote and in-house users, we are pleased to have solved the connectivity to the Internet by leveraging Zscaler's security cloud," explains Antony Poppe, Global Network and Security Manager at Lawter. "Furthermore, we appreciate that little ongoing management effort is required for the solution, so that our small IT organization can remain in the background and focus on priority tasks."



LAWTER'S VALUE PROPOSITION

Our strength is built on formulating technology, strategically sourcing raw materials and providing a global network of manufacturing capabilities. We develop new and lasting technology that provides sustainability through better chemistry and longevity.

LAWTER™

"With Zscaler, we could check off the boxes for all our requirements with one solution providing the necessary level of security for mobile workers as well as performance improvements in our network."

– Antony Poppe,
Global Network & Security
Manager at Lawter

About Zscaler

Zscaler's award-winning Security as a Service platform delivers a safe and productive Internet experience for every user, from any device and from any location. Zscaler effectively moves security into the Internet backbone, operating in more than 100 data centers around the world and enabling organizations to fully leverage the promise of cloud and mobile computing with unparalleled and uncompromising protection and performance. Zscaler delivers unified, carrier-grade secure internet, advanced persistent threat (APT) protection, data loss prevention (DLP), SSL decryption, traffic shaping, policy management and threat intelligence— all without the need for on-premise hardware, appliances or software.

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