ssh®
Securing the path to your information assets

Large International Retailer Chooses SSH Communications Security for Maintaining PCI DSS and SOX Compliance

Leading international retailer relies on SSH Secure and Manage solutions to protect sensitive customer and company data across thousands of locations worldwide.

The Customer Comes First

For one of the world's largest retail organizations with thousands of locations and millions of data transactions each day, protecting sensitive customer and company information is of paramount importance. From customer data and credit card numbers to inventory records and corporate financial information, the company must remain ever vigilant to protect sensitive data against the growing threat of cyber-crime.

Like other large public companies, this retailer is subject to increasing regulatory oversight arising from PCI DSS, Sarbanes-Oxley and other mandates that impose strict record keeping, reporting and data security requirements.

Following an extensive evaluation of its data security infrastructure, the company realized the need to enhance its security technology in light of new technological challenges, and to address the exponential increase in the number and sophistication of cyber attacks. Specifically, the reliance on insecure legacy applications to administer IT infrastructure, and to transfer company and customer data across internal corporate and public networks left data vulnerable to compromise. Furthermore, without a centralized security management system, ongoing efforts to monitor system-wide activities and to quickly deploy new security policies and updates were inefficient and labor-intensive.

With recent high-profile breaches of sensitive consumer information from other retailers still front and center in the public consciousness, the organization was determined to do everything necessary to prevent a similar occurrence.

Ringing Up SSH

The organization faced several challenges. To safeguard customer loyalty and business continuity, the organization had to ensure the security of its IT environment. The existing insecure legacy applications and processes used for exchanging critical business information between data centers, stores and distribution centers had to be replaced with secure alternatives with minimal impact to existing daily operations, infrastructure and user experience.

Another challenge was to find a trusted and time-tested data security solution that supported the complex heterogeneous IT environment in retail outlets, main data centers, and distribution centers without an invasive and lengthy implementation phase. After a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of several security solutions, the retail leader put its trust in SSH Security solutions. SSH provided a single, robust, and secure remote access and file transfer solution across all computing platforms by replacing unsecured applications, such as Telnet and FTP, with secure alternatives.

By integrating to the existing customer environment. SSH solution allowed the company to leverage its investments in existing authentication technologies and IT services to protect consumer and company information throughout the enterprise environment.

The organization had another hurdle to overcome regarding SOX compliance. Passwords and data sent in the clear to the IBM mainframe were now in the forefront of compliancy and overall security issues. SSH engineers and technical support staff helped the customer set up secure user authentication and removed all passwords from their scripts, allowing the customer to achieve regulatory compliance in an expedient and efficient manner.

Given the organization's extensive, multi-platform computing environment spanning thousands of systems and geographies, the efficient management and control of the secured environment was a critical part of the solution. The customer deployed a comprehensive centralized security management solution to manage the SSH environment enterprise-wide from a single location. SSH Manage solutions allowed the IT staff to monitor SSH installations across the globe, ensure rapid deployment of the software, and maintain consistent policies.

SSH offered the added benefit of 24x7 world-class technical support to meet the unique needs of a large worldwide enterprise security deployment. SSH Support Services added a level of assurance, making sure the solution was fully supported around the clock to keep mission-critical data secure.

Cashing in on the Rewards

SSH helped the retailer:

• Secure their legacy environment and meet compliancy deadlines

• Simplify deployment and management in a heterogeneous environment

• Secure customer, employee, partner and financial data

The decision to deploy SSH was based on these factors:

Robust Enterprise Security
Strong encryption and authentication ensures security and integrity of sensitive customer data and business-critical information throughout the enterprise replacing unsecure Telnet and FTP.

Multi-platform Support
Unix, Linux, Windows, and IBM mainframe platform support provides secure end-to-end data communications throughout the retailer's large and complex worldwide, multi-site enterprise environment.

Centralized Management
Centralized deployment, maintenance, and auditing ease the burden on IT resources and help maintain regulatory compliance.

Easy Integration and Implementation
The SSH solution quickly and seamlessly integrates with the multiple software, hardware and networking technologies used by the retail leader without any modification to the existing infrastructure or applications.