

Enterprise Threat Protector Transforms Perform Group's Security Posture



“ Working with Akamai, we were able to quickly isolate, contain, and remove threats to our infrastructure, delivering greater integrity with less effort.”

— Daniel Schatz, CISO, Perform Group



Gaining More Control Over Security

Daniel Schatz knew he needed to do more. His organization had made significant investments in endpoint anti-virus and network-based security. But the success of these tools depended on whether they were properly installed and active on all endpoints and network locations across Perform's infrastructure. In addition, there were always some users who were not running updated versions of the anti-virus on their laptops or devices, leading to an increased security risk. Daniel wanted to address this shortcoming.

The Need to Stop the Spread of Infection

Although many threats were stopped, some still got through. Those that did demanded significant effort to remedy. One compromised laptop could infect several others, each of which needed to be tracked down, cleaned, and rebuilt — taking several hours of a security professional's time, not to mention the lost productivity of the user.

Threats needed to be quickly identified, isolated, and removed. With the growing sophistication of cybercriminals, it was getting more difficult to do so. The assault from malware, ransomware, and phishing was never-ending, creating a drain on resources. And the specter of a serious breach, with all its negative financial, regulatory, and public relations repercussions, was constantly hovering over the organization.

A Quick Win with Akamai

After careful evaluation, Daniel selected Akamai's Enterprise Threat Protector to monitor and block malicious DNS requests to add another layer of proactive security. One key aspect of this decision was the high quality of Akamai's threat intelligence that is focused on active threats and delivers minimal false positive security alerts. The threat intelligence is based on Akamai's unprecedented view of the Internet's IP and DNS traffic.

Additionally, the deployment of Enterprise Threat Protector was simple and straightforward, only requiring a change to forward DNS traffic from Perform's existing DNS servers to Akamai's cloud platform. This change was completed in just a few hours.

Creating a Better Security Posture

The benefits were immediate. Using Akamai Enterprise Threat Protector, Daniel's security team now has an intuitive dashboard allowing them to see potential security problems. “We can finally see what all our computers are doing and take appropriate action,” he noted.

In addition to Akamai's threat intelligence, which is updated in near-real time, Perform's security team can quickly incorporate additional malicious domains from other threat intelligence sources. This allows them to leverage existing resources and quickly block threats across Perform's entire network in minutes. Perform can stop the spread of a threat without requiring any action on the part of end users, creating a much more resilient security posture. Fewer threats get through, and those that do are stopped in their tracks.

COMPANY

Perform Group
<http://performgroup.com>
 Feltham, UK

INDUSTRY

Digital Sports Content and Media

SOLUTIONS

Akamai's Enterprise Threat Protector

KEY RESULTS

- Faster identification, isolation, and resolution of threats.
- Less dependence on proper end-user behavior.
- Fewer false positives detected.

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With Enterprise Threat Protector, Daniel's group has uncovered more bad traffic that they originally anticipated, but also fewer false positives than they experienced prior to partnering with Akamai. As a result, their efforts are more focused on the real dangers, wasting less time with outdated or stale threat information that can cause false-positive security alerts. This means the security team now has the bandwidth to look at higher-value projects. He highlights one interesting discovery: the amount of unknown cryptocurrency mining that Enterprise Threat Protector has uncovered.

Future Direction

Akamai's roadmap for Enterprise Threat Protector is of keen interest to Daniel's group, and they believe they have selected the right partner for the future. Perform is currently working with Akamai to add additional functionality to redirect and monitor endpoints that request suspicious domains, for even faster problem resolution.



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