COMPANY REDUCES MALWARE AND EXTENDS FIREEYE IMPACT & INVESTMENT FOR WORLDWIDE WORKFORCE

Organization Snapshot

Company: Superior Energy Services
Location: Houston, Texas headquarters with multiple data centers serving clients in ~23 countries worldwide.
Number of users protected: Approximately 5,000
Challenge: Rising number of malware threats; existing web filtering solution imposed unacceptable latency and deployment complexity with no security protections.
Solution: OpenDNS Umbrella
Impact: • Significant reduction in number of malware infections • Elimination of latency issues • Near instantaneous roll-out of solution • No additional infrastructure investment • API expands impact/value of FireEye appliances

“Having cloud-delivered security eliminates the latency issues we were experiencing from our previous web filter solution.”

- Cody McCurdy
  IT Security & Compliance Manager
  Superior Energy Services
THE CHALLENGE

Growing malware attacks, countermeasures too expensive
Superior Energy Services, an oil and gas services company, serves clients in approximately 23 countries with an estimated 10,000 employees. Cody McCurdy, IT Security and Compliance Manager, is responsible for leading the company’s Information Security program, while providing malware protection to an expanding mobile workforce that demands high performance.

Superior Energy’s previous web filtering solution proved costly and was unable to protect its employees from malware infections. Worse, latency issues were adversely affecting the productivity of Superior Energy employees. As the web filtering service came up for contract renewal, Superior looked for a more comprehensive solution that would better protect its users from malware, botnets, and phishing threats without greater cost.

THE SOLUTION

Superior Energy Services extends value of FireEye with OpenDNS API
OpenDNS Umbrella was selected for its ability to block current and future malicious domains while also addressing Superior’s modest web filtering needs. Superior was convinced after a trial as McCurdy explains, “We decided to immediately replace half of our web filtering infrastructure with OpenDNS Umbrella.”

In their implementation, Superior Energy also uses the API integration with FireEye to extend FireEye’s protection without requiring additional hardware purchases. They can now automatically apply the malware intelligence acquired at any FireEye appliance location across Superior’s entire Umbrella-supported network.

According to McCurdy, set-up took a matter of minutes. “We simply configured our internal DNS servers to point to OpenDNS,” he says. “After a pilot program, we rolled out the service to half the company’s global employee base; at the one-year point, Superior Energy is now extending Umbrella coverage to the remainder of the company.”

THE IMPACT

Dramatic reduction in infections, complete elimination of latency issues
“We were easily convinced of its value and proceeded with the purchase,” says McCurdy. Malware infections plummeted, and, McCurdy notes, “Our executives were very happy to see that our FireEye investment had instantly increased in value.” Every time FireEye appliances detect a threat, they share the domain information with Umbrella for security enforcement across the larger network. In addition, McCurdy notes, “OpenDNS Umbrella’s cloud-based service eliminated the latency issues we were experiencing from our previous web filtering solution.”

“OpenDNS Umbrella’s UI is clean, simple, and aesthetically pleasing,” adds McCurdy. “OpenDNS nicely illustrates and reports on the security threats it has blocked.” In addition to extending Umbrella’s protection to the remainder of the enterprise, Superior is now looking into utilizing the Roaming Client to protect employees when off the company’s private network.