

**Customer:**

The Alaska State Legislature

Web Site:

www.legis.state.ak.us

Number of Users: 500

Industry: State Government

Solution:

Identity Management

Product:

[NetWrix Inactive Users Tracker](#)

Vendor:

NetWrix Corporation

Phone: 888-638-9749

Web Site: www.netwrix.com

Customer Profile:

The Alaska State Legislature is the state legislature of the U.S. state of Alaska. It is a bicameral institution, consisting of the lower Alaska House of Representatives, with 40 members, and the upper house Alaska Senate, with 20 members.

Automated De-provisioning of Inactive Users Accounts

“Armed with NetWrix tool, we were able to quickly clean out or lock down all of our state user accounts.”

Shay Wilson, Network Administrator of the Alaska State Legislature IT Department.

With a total of only sixty lawmakers, the Alaska State Legislature is the smallest, but one of the most efficient bicameral state legislatures in the United States. Annual sessions begin in January and are limited by statute to ninety calendar days. Unlike other state legislatures with longer sessions, this comparatively short work schedule allows many lawmakers to retain outside employment. In fact, roughly two-thirds of the legislature’s 500-person workforce enters layoff status for six to nine months of the year—and many of those employees do not know whether they will return for the state’s next legislative session. This fluctuation in the legislature’s user base, coupled with its extended periods of downtime, posed significant challenges to the legislature’s IT team’s ability to track inactive user accounts. As a result, the IT team saw the number of its outdated user accounts soar in recent years and needed to find a way to automate the elimination of such accounts.

Challenge: Large Number of Outdated User Accounts Impact Network Security/Management

Many corporate security policies and compliance regulations require that Active Directory user accounts must be disabled

after certain periods of inactivity. Doing so keeps the Active Directory secure and clean. Typically, user accounts are disabled when an employee leaves a company, so that that person cannot access the system and jeopardize security. In the case of the Alaska State Legislature, its IT team was not being informed of such personnel changes, which ultimately led to a large amount of outdated user accounts that were never disabled. The Alaska State Legislature's IT team understood the value of being able to track account inactivity, but lacked the capacity to do so. Furthermore, the legislature's minimal operating schedule made the situation more complex for the IT team. The extended periods of downtime made it extremely difficult for the IT team to monitor which accounts were active and which were inactive. Netwrix Customer Case Study "Armed with NetWrix tool, we were able to quickly clean out or lock down all of our stale user accounts." Shay Wilson, Network Administrator of the Alaska State Legislature IT Department. NetWrix Customer Case Study The Alaska Legislature IT team did not have a way to track who did or did not log on to the network, and needed to implement a solution that would work to de-provision inactive user accounts.

"I learned about Inactive Users Tracker

after discovering Active Directory Change Reporter by NetWrix," said Shay Wilson, Network Administrator at the Legislature. "I realized that this tool could be used to solve our problem that stemmed from the high volatility of our user base. The product was very easy to set up, and the price we paid was very affordable."

Solution: Inactive Users Tracker

The Alaska State Legislature's IT team turned to Inactive Users Tracker to solve its aforementioned problem. The easy-to-deploy solution tracks user inactivity of normal users to discard inactive accounts. With Inactive Users Tracker, the Alaska State Legislature's IT team was able to automate the management of its inactive user accounts. In doing so,

the team reaped the benefits of a solution that periodically checks all user accounts in specified domains and reports all accounts which have been inactive for more than a specified number of days. The Inactive Users Tracker provides the ability to detect user inactivity on a daily basis and allows the IT team to deactivate inactive user accounts automatically by disabling accounts, moving them to a special OU, and finally deleting such accounts.

"With Inactive Users Tracker, we were able to clean out or lock down all of our user

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accounts that had not been used in some time,” said Shay Wilson. “This made our network more secure and manageable. Implementation of this NetWrix product reduced the risk of unauthorized access without increased costs of routine maintenance of stale user accounts that needed to be deactivated sooner rather than later.”

Conclusion:

The power to track users who log on to a network is critical in the ongoing quest to maximize security and meet compliance regulations. In today’s highly competitive economic climate, maintaining a secure network is critical to the long-term viability of every business. By implementing Inactive Users Tracker, the Alaska State Legislature’s IT team was given full access to a proven tool that streamlined its ability to deprovision the legislature’s inactive user accounts, while keeping its Active Directory secure and clean. With Inactive Users Tracker, the Alaska Legislature IT team had a process in place that unleashed the ability to track down inactive user accounts and seamlessly disable or remove them. Since implementing the solution, the

legislature’s IT team has added security in knowing that Inactive Users Tracker will prevent outdated user accounts from building up again, by periodically scanning the legislature’s Active Directory domains for inactive users, and then emailing the list of inactive accounts back to the IT team. Such functionality has allowed the IT team to manage the legislature’s network more efficiently, while improving security and compliance across the board—resulting in a rapid ROI.

“Deployment was ridiculously easy,” said Shay Wilson. “I have received quick and responsive service from the NetWrix support team when I do have questions, which is usually about new products.”

About NetWrix Corporation

Established in 2006, NetWrix Corporation provides innovative and cost-effective solutions that simplify and automate the management of Windows networks. With in-depth knowledge and experience managing Windows environments of all sizes, the company delivers solutions to meet complicated business requirements while fulfilling the best expectations of IT professionals.