Government Ministry Gains Complete Visibility of Outsourced Vendor Accounts with Netwrix Auditor

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- Borut Šorli
  IT Director, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Republic of Slovenia
Challenge: Lack of Oversight over Outsourced Vendor Accounts

The Ministry has a diverse and multi-level IT infrastructure, which is partly administered by a number of outsourced companies with accounts in the Ministry’s Active Directory. The infrastructure embraces various internal environments such as AD, GPOs, VMware and servers. Naturally, it is difficult to control who changed what, where and when. “It is important for us to have a trace of who changed what and when. We have a few outsourced companies (with accounts in our AD) that take care of some parts of our systems,” said Borut Šorli, IT Director.

As audit-related issues became more and more frequent, the Ministry’s IT team realized the need for information technology audit in order to automate tracking of unauthorized changes in Active Directory and VMware, prepare for regulatory compliance audits, as well as improve and simplify internal IT processes.

Solution: Auditing Changes Across All Outsourced Vendor Accounts

The Ministry’s IT department was quick to find software products that would meet the Ministry’s business needs.

"About a year ago, I came across an advertisement in Windows IT Pro Magazine focused around Netwrix change auditing platform – it was just what we needed," said Borut Šorli. Inspired by impressive product reviews and in-depth information on Netwrix solutions in the media, Borut Šorli, the Ministry’s IT Director, made a decision to evaluate Netwrix Auditor for change and ‘state-in-time’ auditing across their decentralized IT environment.

Having evaluated the Netwrix change auditing solutions has allowed the Ministry’s IT department to fully appreciate the unique set of product capabilities, as well as product ergonomics such as the ease of use.

"After we have also implemented VMware environment, we found out that Netwrix Auditor, besides auditing Active Directory and Group Policy just to name a few, also monitors and tracks changes in VMware environment – and it was exactly what we needed,” continued Mr. Šorli.

As a result of the successful trial, the Ministry was soon ready to move forward with the purchase and deployment of Netwrix Auditor. “We made a decision in favor of Netwrix as they offer a set of solutions well suited for us and easy to use,” explained Borut Šorli.

Proven Results: Complete Visibility of Outsourced Vendor Activity with Netwrix Change and Configuration Auditing Platform

After having deployed Netwrix change auditing product, the Ministry’s IT department was finally able to gain better control over various environments in their complex IT infrastructure, including the outsourced companies administering certain parts of the system.

“We are pleased with the decision to go with Netwrix solutions. Based on post-implementation results, there is a massive improvement in the area of system administration and system security,” stated Mr. Šorli.

One of the particular benefits resulting from the implementation of Netwrix Auditor is that administrators gained the ability to restore deleted objects, incorrect modifications, unauthorized changes to group memberships and other information in Active Directory – all thanks to Netwrix Active Directory Object Recovery tool, the free tool that came with Netwrix Auditor. “A rollback wizard is something that makes administration so much easier and safer,” commented Mr. Šorli.
Moreover, the use of the Netwrix change auditing platform has a positive effect on the IT staff’s motivation. They are now more motivated than ever to organize themselves efficiently and take full responsibility for their actions because any change made within the IT infrastructure is monitored and reported. “Administrators being more aware and alert that everything is tracked will make them more careful and systematic,” said Borut Šorli.

Since the deployment of Netwrix Auditor in the Ministry’s IT infrastructure, Borut recommends Netwrix to colleagues and peers: “I have already mentioned to a few colleagues that we have Netwrix product, because I know that they have similar problems that we did before Netwrix came in to the rescue,” Mr. Šorli concluded.

About Netwrix Corporation

Netwrix Corporation is the #1 provider of change auditing software, offering the most simple, efficient and affordable IT infrastructure auditing solutions with the broadest coverage of audited systems and applications available today. Founded in 2006, Netwrix has grown to offer products that are used by more than a hundred thousand of companies worldwide. The company is headquartered in Irvine, California, with regional offices in New Jersey, Ohio, Georgia and the UK.