

Netwrix Customer Success Story



CUSTOMER

The Alaska State Legislature

WEBSITE

w3.legis.state.ak.us

INDUSTRY

State Government

SOLUTION

Change Auditing

PRODUCT

Netwrix Auditor

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.

Streamlined Auditing of a Microsoft Environment Improves Security and Satisfies Auditors

“ Anytime we have a question of how an account was changed, the Netwrix solution helps us to figure out who changed it and when, and then find out from them why.

- Shay Wilson,

Network Administrator of the Alaska State
Legislature IT Department

Challenge: Inability to Trace Changes Within Active Directory

Active Directory change auditing is an important procedure for limiting accidental and unauthorized changes in Active Directory, because even one single incorrect change can put an organization at risk, introducing security breaches and compliance issues. The Alaska State Legislature's IT team understood the significance of change auditing, but lacked the capacity to implement it. The team needed to find a proven solution to manage, monitor, and audit any and all changes made within its Active Directory.

"We have 3 distinct and independent groups that have access to make changes in Active Directory," said Shay Wilson, Network Administrator at the Legislature. "Sometimes there are changes made that are detrimental in some way, and we needed a way to trace what changes had been made and who made them. The groups had numerous email storms when something went wrong in AD, and they couldn't figure out why it happened and who did it."

Solution: Netwrix Auditor for Active Directory

The Alaska State Legislature's IT team turned to Netwrix Auditor for Active Directory to solve its aforementioned problem. With Netwrix Auditor, the IT team discovered that it had access to a proven tool for Active Directory audit reporting which delivered detailed information on a daily basis about any and all changes that were made to the Active Directory, including the crucial Who, What, When, and Where questions for all changes, as well the "before" and "after" values for each and every setting. The product provided the team with a report that listed changes made to Active Directory. The data that Netwrix Auditor is able to generate is now playing the lead role in the team's ability to monitor and audit day-to-day administrative activities.

"We had considered using homebuilt VBS scripts, but they were difficult to make, clunky, and hard to maintain," said Shay Wilson. "Netwrix tools are easy and very affordable. Anytime we have a question of how an account was changed, we can figure out who changed it and when, and find out from them why. It is much easier with Netwrix Auditor for Active Directory than trying to ask 17 busy people if they know the answer. This has also prevented us from undoing changes that were necessary, but we didn't know why until we spoke to the admin who changed it. I have also received quick and responsive service from the Netwrix support team whenever I do have questions (usually about new products)."

Conclusion

The power to monitor and limit any changes and errors to the Active Directory configuration is essential in today's enterprising world, in which compliance and the prevention of security breaches are paramount. These capabilities save companies time and money by streamlining the ability to see such changes, which was the case with the Alaska State Legislature. Without such capabilities, tracing a single change back to a specific administrator would otherwise be a costly, time-consuming process.

The Alaska State Legislature simply could not afford to halt and slow productivity. With Netwrix Auditor for Active Directory, the Alaska State Legislature's IT team was given a viable solution to detect all Active Directory changes on the most detailed level. The end result for the team was improved Active Directory management capabilities across the board, resulting in a rapid ROI.

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.

Netwrix Corporation, 20 Pacifica,
Suite 625, Irvine, CA 92618, US

Regional offices:
New York, Atlanta, Columbus, London



Toll-free: 888-638-9749

Int'l: 1-949-407-5125

EMEA: +44 (0) 203-318-0261