Peoples Savings and Loan Company Keeps Customers’ PII Safe and Easily Passes Government Audits

THE CHALLENGE
Federal and state government regulations require financial institutions like Peoples Savings and Loan Company to establish certain security controls to protect sensitive data, such as PII and information about loans, credit history, account transactions, etc. One critical requirement is thorough monitoring of the IT network. When Bryan Baynes joined Peoples Savings and Loan Company as a network administrator, ensuring compliance with government standards became his primary goal. At least once a year, the company conducts a complete IT network audit. In addition, government examiners come on site every 18 months. Failure to follow the information security regulations can directly affect the company's ability to continue doing business, as well as increase the risk of a breach that would expose the company to liability risks.

NETWRIX SOLUTION
Bryan evaluated a number of solutions, but opted for Netwrix Auditor: “I was impressed how easy it was to receive and read reports in Netwrix Auditor. I didn't need to decipher codes of events to figure out what they were, like I had to do with other vendors’ software. Besides that, there is a single console for all audited systems and a great set of functionalities.” The software enabled the company to achieve the following results:

Visibility into user behavior and data access. Bryan receives a daily report by email with a summary of all activity in the IT network. Visibility into what is happening in the IT network, who access what files enables him to quickly follow up on suspicious activity, such as numerous failed access attempts, manipulation of files during non-business hours, or a lot of traffic coming from a certain user (which can be a sign of ransomware). The reports also help him spot security gaps and prevent data overexposure.

Control over privileged users. One of Bryan's favorite features is user activity video recording. “Netwrix Auditor allows me to video record any user activity that deviates from the norm. If users go to the control panels, change settings, launch the command prompt, or a program that they do not typically run, I record that. It also records our vendors’ activity when they are accessing the systems for maintenance reasons. It is an exceptional feature that makes security so much easier from the operational point of view.”

Streamlined audit checks. Bryan explained how state and government exams and audits have changed after the software deployment: “With Netwrix Auditor, all I had to do to pass the government exams last time, was to print out each of my daily email notifications and they clearly show what controls we have and what is monitored every day. Our examiner was happy with our monitoring processes. To prove our compliance to auditors, I use predefined and custom reports or Interactive Search to answer specific questions.”

KEY BENEFITS
- Enabled strong data access control
- Minimized risk of insider threats
- Simplified passing compliance audits

Learn more about Netwrix Auditor

With Netwrix Auditor, it takes me only 30–40 min per day to go through the reports to see if security policies are being followed and if anything requires my attention. Exams and audits go very smoothly. I can provide any required audit data and prove that information security controls have been in place at all times. It's an easy-to-use solution that enormously simplifies security and compliance tasks.

Bryan Baynes, Network Administrator, Peoples Savings and Loan Company

Customer
Peoples Savings and Loan Company

Industry
Financial Services

Website
www.peoplessavingsandloan.com

Netwrix Auditor Applications
Netwrix Auditor for Active Directory, Netwrix Auditor for Windows File Servers

Customer Profile
Peoples Savings and Loan Company has been helping the community of Crawford County, Ohio, U.S., by providing financial services since 1888. It specializes in the purchase, construction, refinance, and remodeling of homes, as well as vehicle loans and refinancing, and provides a full range of deposit accounts. Peoples Savings and Loan Company is locally-owned and excellent customer service is its top priority.