

EpiForce®

Customer Profile

Staffordshire Police employs around 4,500 people and serves a population of more than a million across an area of around a thousand square miles

Industry: Public Sector - Police

Solution

Installed Apani EpiForce to comply with national regulatory requirements and ensure the force is prepared to access and utilise the new Police National Database (PND) in 2010

Benefits

- Helped Staffordshire Police to raise network security rating to *CONFIDENTIAL*, ensuring access to PND when deployed
- Eliminated the need to purchase additional hardware by leveraging existing infrastructure
- Realised costs savings equivalent to one man-year by reconnecting 50+ digital evidence computers to centralised anti-virus servers
- Minimised future costs associated with policy changes by utilizing a centralised management console
- Both virtual and physical environments where secured with no extra cost or complications
- Provided access control without the need of traditional in-flexible hardware-based appliances

“Apani EpiForce, is one part of an overall solution that will enable Staffordshire Police to achieve “CONFIDENTIAL” IL 4 certification at a lower cost than alternative solutions, and it enables me to maintain security as I virtualise my data centre”

Phil Lovell, head of technology services, Staffordshire Police

OVERVIEW

Staffordshire Police is one of the country’s top-performing forces. It serves a population of more than a million across an area of around a thousand square miles which stretches from the Peak District National Park in the north to the West Midlands border in the south.

Staffordshire Police employs around 4,500 people - with police officers accounting for more than half this figure. It also has more than 200 police community support officers and nearly 400 volunteer special constables. The rest of the workforce is made up of police staff.

The mission statement is, “To put the citizen at the heart of all that we do so that we can be the force that inspires the greatest levels of trust and confidence amongst the communities it serves.” Security of data is clearly a key element of this.

CHALLENGE

The National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) is the national regulatory body of UK police forces. The NPIA requires Staffordshire and other police forces to seek compliance approval on all new technology implementations which involve connection to networks and applications shared with other forces. The NPIA has mandated that all communications to a central data repository is encrypted; this

Apani

includes the extensive Police National Database (PND).

Staffordshire's initial requirement was for a security solution that provided sound encryption, but in the longer term could provide Staffordshire with segmentation options to provide long-term cost reduction and risk mitigation. Staffordshire needed to find a way to encrypt the highly sensitive data in transit to fulfil the directive of the NPIA as well as meet the NPIA's Code of Connection (COCO) compliancy requirements.

As Staffordshire Police currently operates 2,300 workstations and 350+ servers, the chosen solution had to work well in a distributed environment, be unobtrusive to deploy and be flexible enough to address additional business challenges as they present themselves.

INVESTIGATION

Project-managed by Chris Bowen, communications and network services manager for Staffordshire Police, the force undertook the project to raise the Force's level of security from Restricted to Confidential. After examining the Force's business processes, existing alternative technologies and interview key end-users of existing confidential system, Sean Booth, systems security administrator for Staffordshire Police outlined his core requirements for the project:

1. Replace the existing solution with one that can extend confidentiality to the broader Staffordshire network with an accredited encryption solution.
2. Provide a centralised and controlled method of segregating servers/desktops that enables restricted and confidential systems to co-exist in a converged network without affecting performance.
3. Enable computers assets to be physical or virtually relocated without requiring major system modifications.
4. Reconnect 50+ non-networked "digital evidence" machines without exposing the broader network to vulnerabilities. Manually maintaining anti-virus software on these machines currently costs the equivalent of a man-year.

5. Enable the Force to virtualise some of its 350+ servers without facing the security trade-offs caused by using hardware solutions in virtualised environments.
6. Deploy a solution that was transparent and independent to other technologies such as Citrix, VMware and existing infrastructure.
7. Low TCO that could enable the force to meet compliance requirements without sacrificing other projects.

SOLUTION

After an evaluation of solutions which took into account both the Forces Internal and External requirements and regulatory standards, Sean Booth presented several recommendations to the Forces IT review board and Apani was approved as the most viable and cost-effective solution. This proposal was then put forwarded to the NPIA's National Accreditor's and was met with favourable feedback.

Apani EpiForce was deployed to over 2,000 servers and workstations using LANDesk. The 40+ servers were a mixture of Windows and UNIX operating systems.

BENEFITS

The installation of EpiForce delivered several major benefits to Staffordshire Police, including:

- Compliance: met IL-3 traffic requirements using AES-256 bit encryption and could help Staffordshire raise its network security rating to confidential(restricted on top of restricted), ensuring access to the PND when deployed
- Hard savings: eliminated the need to purchase additional hardware and leveraged existing infrastructure without requiring user intervention or training
- Soft savings: saved costs equivalent to one man-year by reconnecting 50+ digital evidence computers to centralized McAfee servers; minimized future costs associated with policy changes by utilizing a centralised management console
- Quick install: EpiForce was quicker to deploy and is less costly to manage than any current hardware-based solution evaluated.

- Virtualisation-ready: secures both virtual and physical environment without extra cost, complication or loss of virtualisation flexibility
- Access control: provides access control or “firewall” capabilities, eliminating traditional hardware-based appliances that are not flexible. Computers can now be moved between subnets without affecting access or requiring rule changes.

ABOUT APANI

Apani® is the preeminent provider of identity-aware network solutions for large enterprises, protecting an organization’s internal network and business-critical data from intruders.

Apani EpiForce®, the company’s flagship product, allows an organization to create an identity-aware network that protects data and network communications by isolating users, servers, clients and mission-critical data into security zones, regardless of system platform or physical location. EpiForce uses the identity of the user to control access to security zones and selectively encrypt traffic between users and machines on the network.

EpiForce provides flexibility and efficiency not available with traditional network security solutions. Based on software, EpiForce is a distributed, centrally-managed solution that is transparent to users, applications and infrastructure – making it quicker to deploy and less costly to manage than any hardware-centric solution. Policy enforced by EpiForce is persistent, enabling protected resources to be relocated without compromising security.

Working to provide an evolutionary improvement in efficiency, flexibility, manageability and total costs of ownership, Apani technology is used by much of the Fortune 500.

Based in Southern California, Apani was founded in 2003 and is privately held. More information about the company may be found at www.apani.com.

For More Information

If you are interested in learning more about EpiForce and Apani Networks, please call iSimile Limited 01793 714250

Alternatively, you may email sales@isimile.com to request further information.

You may access us on the web at <http://apani.isimile.com>

