

SwitchedOnIT Counts on EAL4+ Certified Cyberoam for Secure and Reliable VPN Connectivity



Case Study



Organization

SwitchedOnIT

Country

South Africa

Industry/ Vertical

IT Consultation



Corporate Profile

SwitchedOnIT are specialists in managed IT services and support. They are revolutionizing the way South African companies do business. They believe that outsourcing your IT tasks to an IT support company takes the hassle out of keeping businesses running smoothly, saves them money, and gives them freedom to do what they do best: maintain and grow your business.

Since 2001, they have built over a thousand quality, lasting relationships by focusing on providing time saving support solutions. Their 'SwitchedOnIT 3 Pillars System' offers a holistic and balanced approach to individual IT needs. 'HeartBeat Connect' is their managed support system that connects real-time to their engineers who manage networks, backups, and security threats remotely and pre-emptively.

The SwitchedOnIT Challenge

Being a leading and dynamic managed IT services organization, the Internet is heavily used both for Email communication and Web surfing. In addition, SwitchedOnIT's offices are spread across South Africa. In a time when the business requirements demand global presence for them, the need for a VPN solution is now more than ever.

"We were in need for a solution that would help us to have secure connections between Branch Offices and the Head Office", said Mr. Brendan Breetzke, Senior Engineer at SwitchedOnIT.

According to Mr. Breetzke, the problems that they faced were:

Issues with Remote Access Management and User Accountability

Mr. Breetzke said, "We were looking for a solution that could provide us with secure remote access feature to connect our Branch Offices with the Head Office". However, the need was not of a solution that would just help them in remote connection between the Head Office and Branch Offices, but the solution also must help them manage all the users from the Head Office. Hence, they required something that would provide them with efficient user authentication and accountability from a central location, in addition to VPN connectivity.

The Cyberoam Solution

Having been dissatisfied with a previous UTM solution due to its sluggish performance and unreliable services, SwitchedOnIT was looking for an alternate solution that could provide them with reliable network security and connectivity features. Being a Cyberoam partner, they decided to replace their old solution with Cyberoam's industry-best services.

They purchased Two (2) CR 50iNG and Three (3) CR 25iNG Appliances and deployed all the appliances in Gateway mode. The CR 50iNG Appliances, are deployed in High Availability (HA) at the Head Office in Johannesburg and all the CR 25iNG Appliances deployed at the Branch Offices in Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town, are used to connect to the Head Office via Site-to-Site IPSec VPN.

After deploying Cyberoam in the network, the benefits that they notice are:

We were in need for a solution that would help us to have secure connections between Branch Offices and the Head Office.

- Mr. Brendan Breetzke
Senior Engineer
SwitchedOnIT

Network Perimeter Shielded

Cyberoam UTM shields the SwitchedOnIT's network from all kinds of outside threats. Its ICSA and Checkmark - dual certified Stateful Inspection Firewall provides granular access controls over Internet traffic and network resources. It provides deep packet inspection for network based security ensuring that unauthorized access is denied at the Gateway itself, eliminating the scope of illegitimate pilfering of data or harm to internal resources.

Cyberoam's Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) feature delivers a strong line of defense right at the gateway level, through 4500+ updated signatures against hackers, remote exploits, backdoor activity and other zero hour attacks. In addition, Cyberoam's IPS also acts as an Application Firewall, supplementing organizational efforts to curb data leakage through open proxies, IM and P2P.

A VPN Feature to Overcome all Remote Access Issues

Cyberoam delivers Any Where, Any Time, Any Device access with a range of VPN options, ensuring uninterrupted business operations, enhanced productivity and lower cost of operations by minimizing travel and infrastructure expenses.

Cyberoam offers the option of IPSec VPN, L2TP, PPTP and SSL VPN, providing reliable remote access to organizations. Cyberoam IPSec VPN delivers secure, encrypted tunnels with high performance and low bandwidth requirements.

Mr. Breetzke has established a secure Site-to-Site VPN connection between the Head Office in Johannesburg and the Branch Offices. Cyberoam's Authentication, Authorization and Accounting (AAA) feature allows him to authenticate users in the Branch Offices from a single location i.e. Head Office, using AD Integration.

Mr. Breetzke happily said, "Cyberoam's VPN solution along with its AAA feature is superb. Now users, irrespective of their office location, are able to access all internal company network services and data."

Logging, Monitoring and Reporting with Cyberoam iView

"We often hear from our customers that Cyberoam's On-Appliance Logging and Monitoring feature is very helpful and I am no exception", said Mr. Breetzke.

With Cyberoam iView, organizations receive logs and reports related to intrusions, attacks, Spam and blocked attempts, both internal and external, enabling them to take rapid action throughout their network anywhere in the world.

In addition, the Reporting Module includes a plethora of useful features like 4-eye Authentication, Traffic Discovery, Internet Bandwidth Usage Monitoring, Top Accessed Categories and Google Search Reports, which enhances the visibility of a User's online behavior. To top it all, this feature comes at no additional cost.

Cyberoam's VPN solution along with its AAA feature is superb. Now users, irrespective of their office location, are able to access all internal company network services and data.

To Conclude

"Thanks to Cyberoam, VPN connectivity is now just a few clicks away. Now the employees can move between our offices without any hassle", said Mr. Breetzke.

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