

Synchronized Security Enables **Vashi Integrated Solutions** Elevate its Security Readiness

Vashi Integrated Solutions was founded in 1978 and is a leading provider of industrial electrical, automation, power transmission, and energy optimization products and solutions. Since inception, it has been on a continuous technological evolution trajectory, which has helped it break new ground in solutions technology, grow in newer markets, and establish strong channel partnerships with diverse global brands. With its product portfolio growing year-on-year, the company was well aware that its growth, came with security challenges. It wanted to keep its network and endpoints secure with an intelligent security system wherein the various security solutions worked in perfect sync with one another, to deliver proactive and comprehensive protection.

CUSTOMER-AT-A-GLANCE

Vashi Integrated Solutions

Industry

Manufacturing

Sophos Solutions

Sophos XG Firewall

Sophos Central Intercept X Advanced

Sophos Central Email Advanced

“Sophisticated threats and a security framework that did not move in step with these threats was a huge worry. With Synchronized Security, we not only strengthened our security framework with advanced protection but also onboarded an approach wherein all solutions talk to one another to deliver real time protection.”

Anupam Patra, Head IT, Vashi Integrated Solutions

Challenges

- › Securing network and endpoints from the latest threats without impacting performance
- › Lean IT team unable to cope with increasing security demands.
- › Protecting against emails that are a part of a phishing attack and can drop malware in the system.
- › Inability to secure endpoints with the latest and continuously updated virus protection.
- › Enforcing application-level security control at the gateway and stopping web threats at the gates.
- › Improving incident response time with automation, backed by different security solutions sharing security and incident intelligence with one another.

What are the minimum requirements from a security perspective for a manufacturer that is experiencing rapid growth?

Vashi Integrated Solutions wanted to adopt a forward-thinking approach to security that wasn't reactive, but proactive and predictive. One of their key concerns was the possibility of ransomware getting through their existing security framework and therefore wanted to strengthen it with powerful anti-ransomware protection. “Cyberthreats are becoming more advanced and we realized we needed advanced threat protection backed by real-time threat intelligence to keep both known and unknown threats away from the network,” explains Mr. Patra.

The company was also looking to address their network visibility, control and performance issues. The IT team lacked comprehensive visibility into the network assets and was finding it difficult to secure the network by pushing policies that would allow them to control app access, give more information about risky user behaviour and other aspects that can impact network security. As the organization grew, their network traffic also grew exponentially and the safety of this data was of critical importance.

Securing the inboxes of their emails was another critical challenge as there was always a danger of an email with a malicious malware or links reaching the intended victim's inbox.

While Vashi Integrated Solutions, wanted to address a range of challenges, it also wanted to ensure that its security solutions did not work in isolation but worked together, responding automatically to threats.

How does a more strengthened and advanced security approach address the security needs of a growing organization?

The Vashi Integrated Solutions team were looking for a vendor who had a presence across the network and endpoint, and whose products were a part of an intelligent system wherein they shared intelligence with one another to facilitate a consolidated and automated approach to incident response.

“Before we looked for solutions, we identified our security weaknesses and decided to look for solutions that specifically plugged these gaps. We had help from Digital Track, a Sophos Partner who helped us identify the right set of Sophos solutions and took us through a seamless installation process” says Mr. Patra.

With Sophos XG Firewall, the Vashi Integrated Solutions team gets extensive visibility into risky users, unknown and unwanted apps, advanced threats, encrypted traffic, suspicious payloads and much more. They can leverage the latest advanced technology to protect their network from ransomware and advanced threats including IPS, Advanced Threat Protection, AI-powered threat analysis, Web and Appl Control and more. They also benefit from the rich on-box reporting which is built-in and powerful centralized reporting for all firewall installations, delivered through Sophos Central.

Sophos XG Firewall can identify the source of an infection on the company network and automatically limit access to other network resources in response. This is an outcome of the unique Sophos Security Heartbeat that shares telemetry and health status between Sophos endpoints and firewall. This is Sophos Synchronized Security cybersecurity system at work, responding automatically to threats and delivering enhanced security insights.

Sophos Central Intercept X Advanced detects and blocks malware even when it hasn't been seen before, leveraging Deep Learning AI. It scrutinizes file attributes from hundreds of millions of samples to identify threats without depending on signatures. The IT team has also breathed a sigh of relief when it comes to ransomware as Intercept X's advanced anti-ransomware capabilities detect and block malicious encryption process used in ransomware attacks. Compromised files that have been encrypted are rolled back to a safe state, to ensure business continuity.

The company also benefits from anti-exploit technology that addresses the various techniques commonly used by attackers to compromise devices, and distribute malware. The endpoints thus remain safe from zero-day exploits and file-less attacks.

One of the key challenges of Mr. Patra and team was a growing attack surface resulting from the rapid growth of the company. With Intercept X, they can reduce the attack surface by controlling the apps and devices that run in the Vashi Integrated Solutions environment, block malicious websites and stop PUAs before they affect a user or devices.

With Synchronized Security the company has the advantage of Intercept X and Firewall working in tandem, sharing data to automatically isolate a compromised device while it's being cleaned of malware, and network access is automatically granted upon threat neutralization, and all this happens without the need for admin intervention.

Phishing is a prevalent form of attack these days, and emails with malicious links sent to unsuspecting recipients are fairly common, and Vashi Integrated Solutions realized the seriousness of this problem and the danger it posed to its employees. With Sophos Email Security, imposters are kept out, with the solution automatically identifying high-profile targets for malware-free impersonation and BEC attacks. The attack is then blocked with machine learning analysis of message content, sender authentication, URL protection and cloud sandboxing.

A combination of threat intelligence, reputational and behavioral analysis and advanced machine learning stop malware from reaching the inbox. The team can now push multi-rule DLP policies for groups and individual users to ensure sensitive data is protected at all times. Such messages can be encrypted with custom encryption options and digital signature added to them. Synchronized Security connects Sophos Email with Sophos Endpoint to deliver a much higher level of threat protection and enhance inbox trust. E.g., automatic detection and clean up of infected computers that are sending outbound spam and viruses.

The team was also impressed with the lightning performance of all Sophos solutions that did not slow their users down. More importantly, the solutions were advanced, yet simple to use and easy to manage. Also, user-based licensing helped accommodate the security needs of a modern workforce.

What benefits has your organization experienced with Sophos deployments?

The immediate tangible security benefit for Vashi Integrated Solutions is a 99% reduction in spam and malware threats and a clear improvement in network security by 99%. These are extremely tangible outcomes and illustrate not only the security impact but also the ROI from Sophos solutions. There has also been an uptick in productivity, efficiency and a saving on critical IT man hours, which is a direct impact of Synchronized Security.

The move to Sophos' cybersecurity system wherein all security products work together seamlessly has made the company's approach to cybersecurity more proactive and they are now confident that their cybersecurity framework is well placed to defend against existing threats and those of the future.

"Sophos and Sophos solutions are recommended to all organizations that want to bolster their security with a more evolved approach to security backed by multiple solutions working together, to share data, and taking appropriate action on this data, automatically," signs off Mr. Patra.

Visit sophos.com/firewall