

CASE STUDY

08/2007



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LE DAUPHINE LIBERE

August 2007



LE DAUPHINE LIBERE - Secure Mobility behind Daily News Delivery

Background

LE DAUPHINE LIBERE is a highly popular French regional daily spanning 9 French departments, with a global daily readership estimated at 911 000. The success of the newspaper can in part be attributed to its implementation of a vast and efficient network of information collection covering the south-east provinces of France. 22 issues are produced every day from the collaborative efforts of 2000 local press correspondants and 950 employees working from the Grenoble-based offices and 40 local agencies.

At the very start of the 21st century DL turned to Web-based technologies to facilitate communication among its widely-dispersed agents, and, in addition to the network protection in place, wisely adopted the use of an application firewall to fortify its Extranet.

The Challenge for LE DAUPHINE LIBERE

Early in 2006, two primary considerations motivated the DL management to review their Extranet architecture. Firstly, the existing DMZ Shield Application Firewall had become outdated and was not being upgraded by the vendor. The second imperative arose from the need to make internal messaging (MS Exchange) mobility-compliant, by resorting to a WEB Mail protected access solution (OWA).

A third requirement was also introduced by IT managers who had used their messaging software to build a central directory (Active Directory): they appealed for all applications to incorporate the directory and to offer a single point of entry with robust access control for all users.

To address these challenges DL devised a plan laying down both functionality goals and security requirements in the revised architecture. Mr. Gilles Esprit, the IT Security Manager, led the project, which culminated in the definition of a short list of selected solution vendors. Proof of concept programs by the candidates were required to demonstrate:

- the security of transactions enacted by DL applications
- unified access control (Web SSO) allowing users to reach all their applications after a single and secure authentication process.
- resistance to intrusions when subjected to a vulnerability test performed by a third party.



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• Customer Case Study

Market Segment:

Media
Communications

• Business Requirement

- High grade security for all Extranet application transactions
- Shift to WebMail and Single Sign On access control for Extranet users
- Reinforced security policy to accompany the opening of the IT system to the Web

• Bee Ware Solution

- Deliver tried and tested, standards-based web application security
- Secure end-to-end communications for each and every transaction
- Integrate with no impact on existing infrastructure
- Provide simplified robust access control

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• Gilles Esprit, IT Security Manager



“The Web Application Firewall i-Sentry together with Web Single Sign On module i-Trust corresponded best to the Extranet model we wished to roll out.”

• i-Sentry & i-Trust features

- ICX™ Technology protects applications against new and unknown types of attacks
- Flexible agent-less Web Single Sign On
- High Availability and Load-Balancing of Web Servers
- Ease of deployment to fit in with project timescales and existing infrastructure

Solution integration and assistance courtesy of



• Bart Geeraerts, Cluster Manager
Business Innovation Security – Telindus Europe

“After a thorough evaluation of the competitive landscape and laboratory benchmarking we chose Bee Ware who scored highest on the criteria of attack detection, ease of use and management capabilities.”

The Solution

LE DAUPHINE LIBERE chose Bee Ware’s web application firewall i-Sentry together with its Web Single Sign On module, i-Trust, as the most appropriate option.

“The Bee Ware offer emerged at the top of the list,” says Mr. Gilles Esprit. “Excellent results were obtained in terms of the intrusion-resistance tests, ease of use and in the Active/Active redundancy mode. Bee Ware’s solutions were the logical choice for us.”

The solution was installed by the integrator Telindus in December 2006. The package included configuration aspects and integration into the existing environment. Assistance on hardening the security policy was also supplied at the request of DL management, who were keen to shield themselves from increasingly common Web attacks.

The Benefits

Improved security and streamlined user access to always-available applications are of paramount importance in the information collection system.

Increased application uptime
The high availability feature in i-Sentry is essential for a modern media organisation with a wide network of remote and reactive press collaborators who rely heavily on running and accessible applications.

External and internal confidence
i-Trust enables access control to all applications and for all users. Reinforced security in combination with i-Sentry enhances the experience and productivity of correspondants and IT administrators.

Future-proof security
With the unique i-Sentry capacity to deflect newly discovered web attack techniques, the media organisation stays secure while assuming its daily activity.

“Various upgrades are being planned thanks to the evolution of the products,” says Mr Gilles Esprit. “These will enable us to improve access control using selective granularity, and also to improve the availability of our applications thanks to the High Availability functionality included in the platform.”