



The Challenge

If a company's field of activities includes processing confidential data of its customers – as in the case of accounting, tax consulting, or human resource management, for instance – an exceptionally high level of data security is called for. The reason is that if a security breach occurs not only the company's own data are compromised but also information of those who rely on a maximum degree of confidentiality. Agenda Informationssysteme, a software developer specialising in tax consulting, looked for ways to devise an absolutely safe path onto the Internet for their more than 10,000 customers – without restricting their operational efficiency.

The Solution

Working with noris network as a technological service provider to develop AGEN-DAnet: All the customers' Internet traffic is protected with the help of noris network's proven high security standards and reliable services. A state based, redundant firewall and an upstream Web proxy filtering system ensure automated protection. noris network's qualified staff takes on the task of monitoring and updating the security measures and maintaining the provided infrastructure on an ongoing basis.

The successful project

AGENDAnet's customers only need an additional box placed between the existing DSL connection and their own systems. External threats – such as viruses, spam, or hacker attacks – are blocked just as efficiently as potential abuse by the company's own employees. There is no need for additional installation work or regular maintenance of virus filters, or safety updates on the users' side. For from now on, the entire data traffic takes its way through the high security data centres of the Nuremberg based IT specialist, noris network.

A Comprehensive Data Security Solution Out of the Box



"It was vital not to pile up any barriers to security use. For security must not stand in the way of day-to-day work. We looked for a partner for this product because our own IT resources could not offer in-depth expertise in the same way as noris network's specialists. Accumulating this knowledge ourselves didn't make sense for us economically", states Christian von Hake, head of IT at Agenda Informationssysteme, justifying their decision in favour of noris network.

Top-level security for mid-sized Companies

Email-borne computer viruses, hacker attacks exploiting PC vulnerabilities or perhaps inexperienced employees inadvertently unlocking all files on the hard disk for download when illegally downloading music from a file sharing network – for many companies, the common drawbacks of permanently available Internet access at work are not just efficiency-sapping annoyances but fatal threats to the foundation of their business. For this reason, Agenda Informationssysteme wants to be able to offer their customers a product that can protect their existing Internet access points against attacks and security gaps in the best possible way. noris network's security specialists designed the system and technology supporting AGENDAnet to meet Agenda's specific requirements for their security sensitive target group – and now, the IT service provider is responsible for AGENDAnet's smooth live operation.

Cooperation extended to consumer product

In an earlier project with Agenda, noris network had already demonstrated their competency in network technology and internet security. The Rosenheim based company had noris network build a network for internal communications between the parent company, the developers, and seven offices distributed across Germany. "On this occasion, noris network proved that they possess networking technology expertise on the highest level", IT head Christian von Hake recalls.

noris network services make for 24/7 security

Apart from perfectly functioning security technology, Agenda had come forward with another requirement at least just as important for their target group: ease of use. Therefore, AGENDAnet users are just provided with a new router that then directs the formerly unsecured Internet traffic through an encrypted link across one of noris network's high security data centres. Working from the data centre, noris network's specialists keep the systems current at all times and so deliver an optimal security solution that works perfectly without any additional intervention on-site.

Data & facts

- Agenda Informationssysteme already draws on noris network for their in-house IT infrastructure
- Convincing quality of noris network's services now also realised in the consumer product, AGENDAnet
- No maintenance required for Customers: Internet traffic is directed to the noris network data centres by preconfigured VPN routers
- State based, redundant firewalls plus proxy server filter the data traffic centrally at noris network
- noris network specialists carry out permanent maintenance – email virus scanner, firewall blacklist, safety updates, etc.

Agenda Informationssysteme GmbH

Since their inception in 1984, Agenda Informationssysteme GmbH has been striving to offer the best price-performance ratio on the tax consultant software market. Today, Agenda is a present-day company constantly accreting new users supported every day by 80 employees – all experts with hands-on experience in the fields of tax law, human resources, accounting, and information technology. Today, more than 10,000 tax advisor's offices, accountants, and businesses all over Germany make successful use of Agenda software.

noris network AG

Nuremberg-based noris network AG offers enterprise customers tailor-made ICT solutions in the areas of IT outsourcing, cloud services and network & security. Technological basis of these services is a powerful IT infrastructure that relies on noris network's own high-performance backbone and multiple high-security data centers. noris network AG is fully certified according to ISO/IEC 27001 and ISO/IEC 20000 and has a BSI certification for its own data centers. The data centers have been awarded the maximum rating of five stars in the eco Datacenter Star Audit conducted by eco (Association of the German Internet Industry).

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