

Citizens Savings and Loan turns to Bitdefender to replace traditional security and improve performance

THE CHALLENGE

Like many financial institutions, Citizens Savings and Loan uses sophisticated solutions to provide top financial products and services to its customers. The clientele have come to depend on this long-standing institution, and rely on the company to deliver the trust it has always been known for.

In 2009, Citizens Savings and Loan adopted VMware's virtualization platform as a way to save costs and consolidate services. Initially, the company implemented a traditional anti-virus solution from another security vendor and found the performance of their virtualized servers and VDI user environment was quickly eroding.

"The turning point internally was when we started to add more virtual machines, and our employees complained about how slow their machines were. It was really impacting us internally," said Mark Breaux, Information Technology Officer at Citizens Savings & Loan.

"It became clear from a long term planning perspective that traditional security solutions just would not work. We knew we needed to find a security solution specifically built for virtualized environments. From our perspective, given the mixture of both server based VMs and the movement to VDI, there were really only two virtualization security solutions on the market for us to consider. It was crucial for us to find a strong vendor with a good reputation, and one that ensured our virtualization environment would perform at levels acceptable to our standards," added Breaux.

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Organized in 1884, Citizens Savings and Loan is headquartered in Leavenworth, Kansas, serving approximately 10,000 customers throughout the state. With three offices in Kansas, Citizens Savings and Loan serves many military personnel and their families, along with many law enforcement and local factory workers. For more information, visit www.citizensfsb.com

THE SOLUTION

After performing extensive research, Mr. Breaux found that Bitdefender's underlying technology was well known for winning several independent and comparative AV tests. This led him to Security for Virtualized Environments. After contacting Bitdefender's Enterprise team, a brief proof-of-concept was initiated. Within no time he quickly found that his VMware environment performance significantly improved and Security for Virtualized Environments by Bitdefender was stopping malware in its tracks.

Mr. Breaux continued, "Bitdefender has both a true virtualization security product and it is cost-competitive. But the key for me was the fast deployment – about an hour to download the software appliances into our VMware environment. Given our limited internal IT resources, this ease of use was something that just couldn't be ignored."

He added, "Of the contact we've had with the Bitdefender Enterprise Support team, they have been responsive and helped me effectively resolve any questions or concerns in a minimal amount of time."

"What we also liked about Bitdefender is that we could deploy Security for Virtualized Environments on both our private cloud and our virtual servers and enjoy the benefits of working with just one solution – instead of many."

THE RESULT

Security for Virtualized Environments (SVE) by Bitdefender "is doing the job it's supposed to do," according to Breaux. Citizens Savings and Loan is providing top financial products and services to its internal & external customer base. All the reasons why we went to a VMware environment can now be realized without the pain we were experiencing using a traditional anti-virus solution, using enterprise class solutions such as the combined power of VMware and Bitdefender.



About Bitdefender

Bitdefender is a global security technology company that delivers solutions in more than 200 countries through a network of value-added alliances, distributors and reseller partners. Since 2001, Bitdefender has consistently produced award-winning business and consumer security technology, and is a leading security provider in virtualization and cloud technologies. Through R&D, alliances and partnership teams, Bitdefender has elevated the highest standards of security excellence in both its number-one-ranked technology and its strategic alliances with the world's leading virtualization and cloud technology providers.

For more information visit:
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