Bitdefender®

Yamaha Motor Europe impressed with handling, speed of Bitdefender NTSA

THE CHALLENGE

The Japanese manufacturer operates 15 physical locations in Europe, including two factories and five large warehouses. The European headquarters of Yamaha Motor, in the Netherlands, acts as a hub for the region. "That will also apply largely to our IT infrastructure. The centralization of the European IT of Yamaha Motor is now in full swing," said Sjoerd Nijmeijer, Department Manager IT Infrastructure Information Systems at Yamaha Motor Europe. The two data centers that host various internal applications and websites are in the Netherlands.

Information security overall is, of course, of great importance to Yamaha Motor, but the recording of incidents, such as abnormal network traffic, also has a high priority. However, the existing tools for that fell short, which posed concerns as the company must adhere to strict regulations, such as the Japanese Financial Instruments and Exchange Law (also known as J-SOX), and the GDPR in Europe. Yamaha Motor Europe decided that it needed a more pro-active cybersecurity solution to tackle that challenge.

THE SOLUTION

"When I started working for Yamaha in February 2016, the company had recently decided to use the Network Traffic Security Analytics (NTSA) solution offered by Bitdefender. The reasons for choosing Bitdefender NTSA were primarily since this solution offers great monitoring and logging capabilities. And, finally, it is a solution that's relatively easy to implement," says Nijmeijer.

The Bitdefender NTSA Appliance was delivered to Yamaha Motor Europe at the end of February 2016 and installed in the main data center. "After the physical delivery, it took us only a few days to implement it," Nijmeijer says. The extremely short installation and tweaking time is inherent to the design of Bitdefender NTSA, he explains. "It is first of all a matter of good preparations. And secondly because there are no major changes required in the organization or IT infrastructure. That made it very easy to implement."

Yamaha Motor, a company that has become nearly synonymous with quality motorcycles over the past 62 years, is also a serious player in the design and manufacture of all-terrain vehicles, marine engines, boats, wave runners, industrial machines, robots and even golf carts. Yamaha established its European headquarters in 1968, including a major distribution center, in the Netherlands.

Industry
Manufacturing

Headquarters
Iwata, Shizuoka, Japan

Employees
54,000 (worldwide)

Results
- Gained early notification of suspicious incidents
- Detected a crypto locker infection on laptops
- Prevented Internet access via TOR browser

Bitdefender

THE RESULTS

The Network Traffic Security Analytics solution has been active for over a year in the data center of Yamaha Motor Europe, to the company's "complete satisfaction," says Nijmeijer.

"The NTSA has even saved us twice. Once it sounded the alarm due to suspicious network behavior – strange DNS queries to be exact. It turned out to be caused by an infected mail server in our Swedish website. Thanks to the NTSA, we had that resolved before any harm was done. The second time the NTSA proved to be valuable, was when it detected a crypto locker infection on a laptop of one of our employees in the Netherlands. That is always annoying, but the damage was limited by NTSA's early notification of the incident, and the fact that we have a good backup strategy for our endpoints. The Network Traffic Security Analytics solution really proved its worth on both occasions," says Nijmeijer.

Bitdefender NTSA is also helpful in other areas, notes Nijmeijer. "It makes the IT department of Yamaha Motor Europe aware of certain, less desirable things happening in the network. For example, NTSA alerted us when an external consultant tried to access the Internet using a TOR browser. That does not yield an immediate danger, but it is strange behavior considering the fact that often botnets are controlled via the TOR network. When we asked the consultant about his browsing activities, he was surprised: 'Oh, can you detect that?' Our answer was simple: Yes, we can."

"The reasons for choosing Bitdefender NTSA were primarily since this solution offers great monitoring and logging capabilities. And, finally, it is a solution that's relatively easy to implement."
Sjoerd Nijmeijer, Department Manager
IT Infrastructure Information Systems,
Yamaha Motor Europe

Bitdefender Footprint
- Bitdefender Network Traffic Security Analytics