

CASE STUDY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The IT team at Globys wanted to bolster segmentation within their 100% virtualized datacenter for PCI compliance and overall security.

Their underlying physical network, like most, was relatively flat limiting segmentation between systems on the same subnet. They wanted to implement a solution outside of the OS, meaning host-based firewalling was not a desirable solution.

Catbird Secure® provided the means for Globys to easily meet their segmentation goals logically, without change to the underlying network infrastructure.

Globys Reaps Benefits from Software-Defined Segmentation in their Virtual Datacenter

Big Data Analytics Case Study



Globys delivers big data analytics for telecommunications companies, financial service providers and other large brands. They provide companies an innovative solution that provides actionable statement reporting and analytics so their customers can optimize utilization of products and services. By simplifying the way statement data is shared, Globys has enabled some of the world's largest brands to drive significant revenue, retention, and operational improvements.

CHALLENGE

The virtual datacenter is software-defined, and thus easily configured and changed. Creating firewall rules for this environment is a less automated process, and not well linked to changes in the datacenter. It's difficult to ensure that the aggregate of the rules achieves the necessary separation of the workloads, and even more difficult to detect changes or new VM creation.

"It makes no sense to rely on static controls in the dynamic datacenter" said Craig Lindsay, **Manager of Systems Engineering at Globys**

Driven by PCI-DSS requirements, Globys needed a way to apply policy to individual VMs without regard to the underlying network infrastructure, and to assure continuous separation of the CDE (Cardholder Data Environment) from other workloads on the same host. It became essential to gain visibility into traffic within their datacenter (east-west), as well as being able to provide evidence and assurance of this segmentation.

CATBIRD®

SOLUTION

Catbird Secure® is a software solution purpose built to address the challenges of the software-defined datacenter. Secure provides the automatic detection of all virtual assets within the environment, and provides for logical segmentation of these workloads through the use of Catbird TrustZones®. Catbird enabled Globys to observe netflows within and across these TrustZones, while Secure's onboard IDS engine gave Globys the tools needed to monitor these flows for CDI (Card Data Information), and to block non-conforming traffic based on policy.

Once implemented, Globys quickly discovered additional benefits from Catbird Secure®. Catbird's visual representation of netflows allowed them to observe traffic that wouldn't normally traverse a physical network point.

"This provided a means of troubleshooting not otherwise possible, resulting in speedier resolution of problems" said **Kevin Nelson, Network Administrator at Globys**

Globys also discovered that they could utilize Catbird TrustZones to spin up simulated environments for pre-production and testing scenarios.

RESULTS, ROI AND FUTURE PLANS

Preparing to meet the stringent segmentation requirements of PCI, Globys faced a difficult task. They considered using their perimeter and host based firewalls to create their CDE. However, to create and validate all the necessary rules manually would be an enormous effort, and without the tools to visualize and monitor their traffic, these static rules would become less effective over time. Globys processes tens of billions of transactions each month so precise control was essential.

Catbird Secure® provided the means to create their CDE without any change to the underlying network, saving weeks of manual effort. Catbird's orchestration functions supported the growth and change in their environment by automatically detecting and applying policy to new workloads at inception, saving countless hours of ongoing effort to maintain the network base segmentation. Catbird eliminated the cost of tedious manual and error prone configuration, freeing Globys' IT staff to focus on more strategic initiatives.

"Catbird provides Globys with new visibility into our network traffic, the ability to perform micro-segmentation of our virtual machines and create fine-grained ACLs all without the high price and complexity of other products"

Craig Lindsay, Manager of Systems Engineering at Globys



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