UDLAP

UDLAP®

Overview

Industry
○ Education

Challenge
○ Needed to protect private personal information
○ Concerned about malicious and non-malicious insider threat
○ Legacy tools created large number of alerts
○ Complex network environment with thousands of mobile devices and BYOD

Results
○ Full network visibility via 3D Threat Visualizer
○ AI algorithms detect threats as they emerge
○ Continuous monitoring of rogue and BYOD devices
○ Technology cuts through the noise and only flags genuine alerts

Business Background

Founded in 1940, Universidad de Las Américas Pueblas (UDLAP) has established itself as one of the most prestigious private universities in Latin America. Offering 58 different degrees and more than 30 postgraduate programs, UDLAP currently has over 10,000 students enrolled and almost 2,000 faculty members. Technology and innovation play important roles in the culture of the university and, as such, the university considers taking an innovative approach to its cyber security as a priority.

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> **Fernando Thompson, CIO, UDLAP**

Challenge

As a leading educational institute, UDLAP was concerned about protecting its network in the face of increasingly aggressive threats, including targeted attacks, ransomware, and other sophisticated threats. The sensitive personal and financial information of over 12,000 students and employees is stored on the university's network, and a successful data breach could prove damaging to the prestige and reputation of the university.

Compounding this challenge, the security team was burdened with investigating thousands of unnecessary alerts. They needed a new solution that could use AI to understand the network and alert the team to only truly threatening activity. Furthermore, UDLAP's security team needed to be particularly strategic with its investments. "We always have to be careful and intelligent with the investments we make," commented Fernando Thompson, CIO at UDLAP. "Each investment has the potential to affect the core business of the university– our students and their educational experience."

Solution

To meet these challenges, UDLAP selected Darktrace for a four-week Proof of Value. After a one-hour installation, Darktrace began learning the 'pattern of life' for every device and user on the university's network. Using machine learning and AI, the Enterprise Immune System was able to quickly form an accurate and comprehensive understanding of what constituted 'normal' activity for UDLAP's network. Using this understanding, Darktrace began flagging serious threatening anomalies on the network, enabling the security team to respond and remediate threats in real time.

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UDLAP was also impressed by Darktrace's Threat Visualizer. The tool presents a dynamic and interactive view of all network activity, providing the security team with unprecedented visibility into the network. "I had never seen a tool like Darktrace," said Thompson. "The Enterprise Immune System enables me to see all connected devices, and review any suspicious activities and connections in real time."

Benefits

Armed with the Enterprise Immune System, UDLAP feels confident that it can detect novel, sophisticated, and machine-speed threats as they emerge. "There are so many new and sophisticated threats that it is impossible for a person to detect them in a timely manner," commented Thompson. "Darktrace's AI technology dramatically improves our ability to defend our networks."

The university's security team had previously been swamped by high numbers of unnecessary alerts and false positives. They spent so much time responding to these alerts that they had little time to take a proactive approach to cyber security. However, now equipped with Darktrace's unique understanding of a network and its advanced AI the security team is only alerted to the most threatening activity. "Darktrace reduces the number of unnecessary alerts," said Thompson. "As time goes by, the accuracy of the tool only continues to increase."

Not only does the Enterprise Immune System enable the security team to respond to serious threats in real time, but now they have the time and resources to focus on enhancing and updating the university's security program. Darktrace's AI helps UDLAP both detect today's threats and protect itself from the threats of tomorrow.

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> Darktrace's AI technology dramatically improves our ability to defend our networks. When suspicious activity begins taking place, the Enterprise Immune System warns our team immediately, giving us enough time to respond and prevent any threat from damaging our network.
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> **Fernando Thompson, CIO, UDLAP**