

Apave



Overview

Industry

- Industrial Services

Challenge

- Targeted and sophisticated cyber-attacks
- Insider threat
- Limitations of the legacy approach
- Incomplete network visibility

Results

- Installed in under an hour
- Able to visualize, investigate and mitigate threats in real time
- 100% network visibility
- Powered by machine learning

Business Background

Founded in 1867 in France, Apave offers services to corporations within the oil and gas, industrial services and infrastructure sectors. Providing a range of services such as risk testing, offshore inspections, technical control, communications training, and consulting, the international company employs over 10,860 people, of which 8,000 are engineers and technicians. It has a customer base of over 200,000 companies worldwide and, moreover, manages 130 branches and offices, 34 laboratories, 143 training spaces as well as 50 subsidiaries in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, the Indian Ocean and Africa.

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Patrick Conreux, CISO, Apave

Challenge

The stakes of cyber-threats in this sector are high given the possible implications on the integrity of national critical infrastructure. As a large company with an extensive customer base, spanning several global locations, Apave has many users on its network at all times. Given the limitations of traditional legacy tools in detecting potential insider threat, the company wanted to focus less on perimeter defense and more on the activity inside its network.

The company was looking to reorganise its IT department and a large component of the process was finding an innovative security technology, capable of providing visibility into its entire network, whilst bolstering the company's cyber defense strategy.

Solution

Apave decided to deploy Darktrace's Enterprise Immune System, enabling it to detect the earliest indications of cyber-threat. Following a 4-week Proof of Value ('POV'), Apave was impressed by the ability of the 'immune-system' technology to alert its security team to any deviation from normal activity, allowing the team to investigate and mitigate risks before potential issues have time to escalate and cause any damage.

Powered by machine learning and mathematics developed by specialists from the University of Cambridge, Darktrace's technology is self-learning. As such, it builds an understanding of a network's 'pattern of life' as soon as it is installed, by modeling the behaviors of all users, devices and the network as a whole. As such, it doesn't depend on any manual input or pre-set rules or signatures but instead automatically detects any deviation from the norm and alerts Apave in real time.

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Benefits

All alerts are presented to Apave's security team via Darktrace's Threat Visualizer interface, a 3D graphical overview of its network, which allows the team to visualize emerging threats in real time and look back in time to see, first-hand, how the abnormal behavior, such as abnormal downloads or suspicious insider activity, unfolded.

“Darktrace makes everything simple. The design of the Threat Visualizer is very intuitive and impressive – it helps with the forensic aspect of threat-analysis. It is invaluable to us to know exactly what is happening on our network, as it happens,” said Patrick Conreux, CISO, Apave.

Moreover, the Threat Visualizer interface intelligently classifies all potential threats, enabling Apave to efficiently allocate human resources to the most serious issues first. Apave also receives weekly Threat Intelligence Reports ('TIR'), from Darktrace's expert analysts, which provides the company with a comprehensive explanation of what the technology has detected. “The TIRs are specific and intelligible, making them a very useful reference when taking Darktrace's findings to our colleagues,” continued Patrick.

Thanks to Darktrace's Enterprise Immune System, Apave is now better equipped to handle the reality of the current cyber landscape, staying one step ahead of today's most sophisticated cyber-attackers, and ultimately protecting its reputation as a leading service provider in its sector.

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