Energy Saving Trust

Business Background

Energy Saving Trust is a UK-based organization that aims to help the UK achieve its goal of reducing its carbon emissions by 80% by 2050. The trust’s experts offer advice and programs, based on its pioneering, world-renowned research, to householders, governments, UK businesses and international companies. With bases across the UK, the trust endeavours to change the energy landscape by altering attitudes and behaviors, at the individual, community and business level, with regard to energy and water consumption.

Challenge

Cyber threats and the people behind them are constantly becoming more advanced, exploiting the latest technological innovations in order to penetrate networks and cause disruption. It is imperative that companies employ cutting-edge defensive technologies to stand any chance of staying a step ahead of tomorrow’s cyber-attackers.

After a period of business-restructuring, Energy Saving Trust was looking for an innovative cyber security technology to bolster its overall cyber defense strategy. Keen to defend its critical assets, including sensitive client data and intellectual property, from sophisticated and intelligent cyber-attackers, the trust understood the need for a technology capable of detecting even the subtlest of threats.

Moreover, the trust manages a dynamic and complex network, which naturally makes it vulnerable to potential insider threat. Whether it’s an unsuspecting employee whose system has been hacked or an authorized user with malicious intent, the trust required complete network visibility to be able to detect any unusual behavior, as it happens.

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Glen Haughton, IT Manager

Results

- 100% network visibility
- Real-time threat detection
- Increased confidence in cyber defense strategy
- Threat classification enabling efficient investigation and risk-mitigation
- Threat Intelligence Reports from Darktrace’s expert analysts
“The thing that made me turn to Darktrace in the first place was that I didn't have the confidence to be able to say to my CEO, with my hand on my heart, 'yes, our network is completely safe,'” said Glen Haughton, IT Manager, Energy Saving Trust.

Solution

After completing a 4-week Proof of Value (POV) of Darktrace's Enterprise Immune System, Energy Saving Trust was impressed by the technology's ability to achieve real-time threat detection.

Powered by machine learning and mathematics developed by specialists from the University of Cambridge and inspired by the human immune system, Darktrace's technology models the behaviors of every user, device and the network as a whole, in order to learn a specific 'pattern of life'.

Using this dynamic and adaptive sense of 'self', the technology automatically detects any behavior or activity that deviates from the norm and reports it to the company, in real time, via the Threat Visualizer interface. It does this without having to depend on any pre-set rules or signatures, like most legacy tools, and therefore is more likely to notice potential threats, even those not previously encountered.

Benefits

Energy Saving Trust is now alerted to any anomalous behavior that may be indicative of cyber threat, as soon as it occurs, allowing the trust’s security team to carry out further investigations and mitigate any risk posed before real damage is done.

The Threat Visualizer interface provides a 3D, graphical overview of the network with features including a playback tool and threat classification, allowing the trust to control the level of threats it is alerted to and efficiently organize its human resources when handling issues.

“The Threat Visualizer is an excellent tool because you can see, very quickly, exactly what is happening with regards to a particular issue,” said Glen Haughton, IT Manager, Energy Saving Trust. “Not only does it show you what is going on within your network, but also external connections being made; the level of visibility is exceptional.”

Furthermore, the trust receives weekly Threat Intelligence Reports written by Darktrace’s expert analysts, which provide a comprehensive and detailed account of the issues found on it’s network.

“I now have 100% confidence in the reports I take to our board,” continued Glen Haughton. “I know what I’m talking about and when I say our network is safe and clean, I know that it is. I’m in charge of our network and no one else.”

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