DARKTRACE

Pool Re

POOL RE
REINSURING TERRORISM RISK

Overview

Industry

- Insurance

Challenge

- Incomplete network visibility and understanding of user behavior
- Insider threat and rapidly-evolving cyber threats
- Need to protect long-term reputation

Results

- Complete network visibility
- Proactive detection of in-progress issues
- Ability to take action immediately and mitigate risk of anomalous behavior

Business Background

Founded in 1993, Pool Re is a reinsurance company, whose members comprise the majority of commercial property insurers in the UK. The company was established in the wake of a series of terrorism events in England linked to the IRA in Northern Ireland. The structure of the Pool Re scheme is based on the joint involvement of the insurance industry and government. Since its inception, Pool Re has provided cover to its members for losses of over £600 million following 13 separate terrorism incidents.

> "
> The 24/7 network visibility Darktrace has provided us with is invaluable and has transformed our understanding of our systems and the activity within.
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> **Mark Harris, Head of IT, Pool Re**

Challenge

Today, the reinsurance industry depends on IT systems more than ever. Like all modern organisations, Pool Re utilizes complex network in order to provide cover for its numerous members and to carry out effective data analysis for risk evaluation. As such, the company prioritizes its cyber defense strategy very highly in order to maintain data confidentiality and integrity and its reputation as a leading UK reinsurer, whilst retaining its integrated and complex network. Additionally, Pool Re recognized its lack of complete network visibility as a potential vulnerability.

The current cyber landscape is one of constantly evolving attack types, sophisticated attackers and insider threat. Traditional security tools, which focus on building hermetic walls around the complex networks of modern enterprises cannot tackle the real issues of today. In order to stay ahead of cyber attackers, Pool Re recognized its need to strengthen its cyber defense strategy by deploying a technology able to detect emerging threats and mitigate the risk they pose.

Solution

After a 4-week Proof of Value (POV), Pool Re decided to deploy Darktrace's award-winning Enterprise Immune System due to its unique ability to detect emerging threats as they occur, from both external and internal sources. The technology, powered by machine learning, is developed by mathematicians from the University of Cambridge. It is inspired by the biological principles of the human immune system. By modeling the behaviors of each user and device, it establishes a 'pattern of life' for the network as a whole, enabling it to spot any deviations from the usual pattern of activity, which could be indicative of in-progress cyberthreats. It doesn't require any manual input or depend on pre-set rules or signatures.

Pool Re is alerted to this information via Darktrace's Threat Visualizer Interface, which provides them with a 3D graphical overview of its network activity and threat classifications. This technology allows them to investigate threats as they occur and prioritize the most serious threats, employing human resources efficiently.

Benefits

As a result of using Darktrace's 'immune system', Pool Re's security team can now visualize, investigate and mitigate emerging threats that attack its network. This complete network visibility gives them a much improved understanding of device and user interactions, and flags up potential insider threats.

Pool Re is better equipped to handle the reality of the current cyber landscape, in which threats and attackers can infiltrate network barriers and cause significant damage and disruption to business. Darktrace's machine learning technology is able to stay ahead of sophisticated, modern attackers, which ultimately protects Pool Re's reputation as a leading UK reinsurer.

> " As a leading reinsurer of terrorism risk in the UK, not only do we prioritize our cyber security from a business point of view but we are also interested in cutting-edge technology that aims to counter-act terrorist attacks. Darktrace's technology is at the forefront of this, defending enterprise networks from cyber threats from all sources, including potential terror threats. "
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> **Mark Harris, Head of IT, Pool Re**

Contact Us

North America: +1 415 229 9100
Europe: +44 (0) 1223 394 100
Asia Pacific: +65 6804 5010

info@darktrace.com
darktrace.com