

Scott-Moncrieff



Overview

Industry

- Financial Services

Challenge

- Defend its critical assets and sensitive client data
- Sophisticated and intelligent cyber-attackers
- Insider threat and unpredictable employee behavior
- Limited network visibility

Results

- Real-time threat detection capabilities
- 100% network visibility
- Threat Visualizer interface with play-back and threat classification tools
- Confidence to recommend Darktrace to own clients

Business Background

Scott-Moncrieff is one of Scotland's leading independent firms of chartered accountants and business advisors. The firm offers advice and services to all types and sizes of organization, spanning several industries and sector groups. Its employees offer expertise on a wide range of business aspects, including financial assurance, risk management, cyber security, performance improvement, taxation and wealth management.

“

It is invaluable for us to be able to recommend a cyber security solution that we trust to our clients. We can tell them: 'this is what it does for us, here's what it can do for you.

”

**Robert Mackenzie, Business Technology Partner,
Scott-Moncrieff**

Challenge

Scott-Moncrieff prioritizes its cyber defense strategy very highly, particularly in the current cyber landscape. Today's cyber-attackers are sophisticated and intelligent, rapidly developing and evolving attack methods, using the latest technological innovations.

Moreover, cyber security is at the forefront of the firm's service offering to its clients. As such, Scott-Moncrieff's experts put a lot of effort into keeping up-to-date with the latest threat trends and the defensive technologies available on the market. The firm was particularly keen to find a technology capable of addressing the potential insider threat posed by unpredictable employee behavior.

"We know that a big risk to security is the behavior of people. We could secure our infrastructure, using end point security, and employ all of the filters you would normally have in place, but the bit you can't control is the behavior of individuals. Employees like ours, well-trained, well-educated, intelligent professionals, are often the hardest to control," said Robert Mackenzie, Business Technology Partner, Scott-Moncrieff.

Solution

Scott-Moncrieff decided to permanently deploy Darktrace's Enterprise Immune System after completing a 4-week Proof of Value (POV). Inspired by the human immune system, the technology is powered by machine learning and mathematics developed by specialists from the University of Cambridge.

As soon as it is installed, Darktrace begins to model the behaviors of all users, devices and the network as a whole in order to build a 'pattern of life'; an evolving baseline of 'normal' activity. Genuinely anomalous behavior is assessed and reported, if judged to be threatening.

“

It was the self-learning aspect of Darktrace's technology that initially intrigued us and ticked all the boxes. It is able to establish what is normal business practice and behavior and then identify any anomalies or outliers.

**Robert Mackenzie, Business Technology Partner,
Scott-Moncrieff**

”

Benefits

All alerts are presented to Scott-Moncrieff's IT security team via Darktrace's Threat Visualizer interface, a 3D graphical representation of the firm's network. Not only is the firm alerted to potential cyber-threats in real time, it can also visualize the suspicious activity as it occurs and look back in time at the unfolding of events that led up to a threat.

Furthermore, all issues detected by the Enterprise Immune System are classified according to seriousness. The firm's team can control the level of threats it is alerted to and, for the issues reported, carry out efficient investigation and risk-mitigation processes if necessary. "It means that valuable human and technical specialist time is spent looking at the important things instead of sifting through mounds and mounds of data," said Robert Mackenzie.

Thanks to Darktrace, Scott-Moncrieff now has confidence in its own cyber security strategy, knowing it will be alerted to even the most subtle indications of cyber-threat on its network, whether the issues stem from an external source or someone acting on the inside, and therefore can stay a step ahead of tomorrow's most advanced cyber-attacks.

"The Enterprise Immune System has answered a previously-insoluble problem that we had but, more importantly, it answers the problem that we see all of our clients facing. It is invaluable for us to be able to recommend a cyber security solution that we trust to our clients. We can tell them: 'this is what it does for us, here's what it can do for you,'" said Robert Mackenzie.

Contact Us

North America: +1 415 229 9100

Europe: +44 (0) 1223 394 100

Asia Pacific: +65 6804 5010

info@darktrace.com
darktrace.com