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Security & Stability Audit Case Study

Background

Displaytech, Inc. makes and sells with superior image quality for electronic viewfinders in consumer digital still cameras, camcorders, and mobile communication devices. Founded in 1985, it employs 50 employees at its headquarters in Longmont, Colorado. Displaytech also has a partnership facility in Tokyo, Japan.

The Challenge

Displaytech experienced employee downsizing and shortly afterward hired a new management team. Its computer network was not given proper attention or resources during the transition. The new team was concerned with the system's security and stability. Displaytech wanted an unbiased assessment of the current network system with two specific goals: to identify vulnerable areas that could easily be breached and to define critical areas of the network that would likely impact the business during hardware or configuration failures.

The company needed the assessment report to be easily translated into an action plan. It wanted to address network issues as quickly and efficiently as possible.

The Result

Mile High Networks conducted a security and stability audit of the entire network system including servers, routers and firewalls. Each component was evaluated with emphasis on device configuration and log files. Additionally, the entire network was evaluated for how the business was using resources to help identify vulnerable areas. Mile High Networks:

- Interviewed key department personnel to identify critical data and ascertain how the network was being used.
- Reviewed system logs for all network components to determine stability issues.
Reviewed all network hardware identified as business critical to determine single points of failure.

- Evaluated all network perimeter device configurations that could make the network vulnerable.
- Evaluated company practices that could lead to system breaches.

Once Mile High Networks completed the assessment, it developed a comprehensive audit report in a matrix form to allow Displaytech to prioritize issues based on classification or risk level. The report included:

- An itemization of 37 concerns,
- A risk scale from 1 - 10 to easily identify the most critical issues, and,
- A description of the problem and technical recommendations for resolution.

Mile High Networks then held an extensive meeting with management and technical staff to review the findings and address any concerns or questions.

Company Testimonial

"Mile High Networks provided our company with a thorough risk assessment of its IT infrastructure and network. From this assessment, we were provided with a comprehensive and informative report of the low, medium and high priority risks to which the company was exposed. Based upon this report Mile High Networks worked with us to develop and implement a plan which greatly minimized our exposure to risks and was tailored to our current size, future growth and existing budget. Through extensive up-front planning we were able to successfully migrate our network and implement the necessary changes, all with minimal impact on users and day-to-day operations. Following the migration, Mile High Networks was there to assist with troubleshooting the smaller issues that remained after the initial migration was complete; additionally, the project was completed on time and within the budget. Mile High Networks did an outstanding job in all aspects of the project, from the initial assessment, planning, implementation through follow-up".

Chuck Jernigan
Network Administrator
Displaytech Inc.