Nokia IP/Optical Networks Team Preserves Trust with PrecisionAccess

Nokia IP/Optical Networks Business Group selected PrecisionAccess™ to enhance protection for business-critical, intellectual property.

CHALLENGE

A key hardware development and lifecycle management application suite contained intellectual property yet required easy access for hundreds of internal employees and external partners across the globe. Existing security solutions were not granular enough to isolate servers from unauthorized users without considerable additional costs and processes.

Nokia's IP/Optical Networks had recently tested a VPN / multifactor authentication solution but it was unwieldy and interfered with the productivity of high value engineering employees. The global technology leader was looking for a new approach to protect intellectual property that would appear seamless to users.

VIDDER DELIVERED

PrecisionAccess powered by state of the art Software Defined Perimeter technology provided isolation of the software suite while ensuring multifactor protection blocking visibility from all but authenticated users across all networks without impacting employee and partner productivity.

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EXECUTIVE MANDATE: PROTECT GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

In 2016 senior leaders in the Nokia IP/Optical Networks group decided to take a more proactive security posture. Their existing firewalls and network access control solutions could not offer enough protection for a business critical manufacturing app without a considerable global investment in new hardware and internal resources and risks to employee productivity. They looked first at a VPN / multifactor authentication solution but it was too cumbersome for users.

The application was key to the productivity of hundreds of internal and partner employees scattered across six offices in four countries. It contained proprietary information that had to be protected from unauthorized access while still being easily accessible to users. In addition, considerations had to be made to allow app and data be kept in specific locations within the company. Consolidation behind a more manageable traditional hardware-based perimeter wouldn't work.

After assessing the challenges of a global, multi-vendor security project requiring massive new investments, Nokia IP/Optical Networks team decided to look beyond traditional firewall and network access control solutions.

When they came across PrecisionAccess and its Software Defined Perimeter technology it became clear they could establish a single layer of transparent enforcement across a complex array of internal and external networks with a fraction of the cost, effort and risk of a cobble of traditional solutions. The new solution would also have no negative impact on end-user productivity.

"PrecisionAccess stood out because of its granular ability to easily and effectively isolate servers from unauthorized internal and external users," said Doug Downen, Director of IP/Optical Networks Engineering IT at Nokia.

Nokia deployed Vidder in 2016, enhancing security by deploying a single layer of transparent enforcement protecting sensitive data from a wide range of new attacks.

"Before Vidder, it would have been impossible to enhance trust across internal and external networks without a massive (and costly) effort and a substantial negative impact on employee and partner productivity."

-Ken Kutzler, VP GM Hardware and Product Management at Nokia IP/Optical Networks