

IT services firm enhances UNIX security while simplifying management

SMB clients delivered enterprise-level support with Privileged Access Suite for UNIX

Key Facts

Company

Business
Communication s.r.o.

Industry

IT MSP

Country

Czech Republic

Website

www.bcom.cz

Challenges

- Too many identities for each user
- Lack of centralized authentication and authorization for UNIX environment
- No individual accountability for privileged account activities


Results

- Achieved single sign-on reducing workload and enhancing user experience
- Enabled centralized control and auditing of access to all UNIX systems, saving IT time and enhancing security
- Enhanced security by extending the security and compliance of AD to UNIX

Products

[Privileged Access Suite for UNIX](#)

Business Communication (Bcom), is responsible for managing, monitoring and ensuring the security for their clients' networks. The firm's clients span the SMB spectrum, from small manufacturers to finance to insurance organizations. As a trusted security advisor, Bcom needs to make sure that the practices that they use to manage clients networks are secure and prepared to comply with access auditing as required by the upcoming GDPR (European data protection regulation). As the number of UNIX and Linux servers under their watch continued to grow, managing and ensure their security was becoming quite a challenge for Bcom. This challenge was complicated by the fact that natively UNIX and Linux don't have centralized identity stores or authentication. Bcom had to create, use and update identities on each server, which was a time-consuming and onerous task. Bcom was securely storing all the passwords in an encrypted password vault but because there were so many of them, they weren't changing them on a regular basis.



“With a single identity, our administrators can easily remember the password, even if it is complex they don’t have to take the extra time to look in some encrypted password store to log in to a server.”

Jan Jezek, Owner and director of Business Communication

“Our customers tend to be data sensitive,” said Jan Jezek, director and business part owner of Business Communication. “Since we are a trusted advisor for them on the security concerns, we needed to address our internal security issues to deliver customer confidence and trust in our services.”

Additionally, some of these accounts were shared so there was little individual accountability.

“Identities were dedicated to every single server,” said Jezek. “We had to maintain passwords on multiple servers separately. That situation is really inconvenient from a management standpoint but also a problem when we provisioned a new server for our customers.”

This combination of dedicated passwords and shared credentials could have posed a potential risk that Bcom needed to mitigate.

Outside of these internal challenges, there’s compliance initiatives and security standards like ISO 27001 with which Bcom needed to be concerned. They needed to implement a solution that would reduce or eliminate any security, tracking and reporting concerns brought on by these initiatives.

Solution

When it came to identifying a solution for their challenges, Bcom first looked into some open source solutions, but were concerned about the security and lack of support that open source presents. After a quick demo from One Identity, Bcom knew they found a vendor partner who could help them to address their identity and security needs around UNIX resources.

They choose One Identity’s Privileged Access Suite for Unix.

The suite delivers UNIX security that combines an Active Directory bridge and a root-delegation solution in one console. It consolidates and unifies UNIX, Linux and Mac OS X identities. Plus, it assigns individual accountability, enables least-privilege access and centralizes access reporting of the UNIX root account for complete visibility of identities and access rights for UNIX environments.

Deployment went off without a hitch. “The One Identity pre-sales team was really great to work with and trained us on the solution before the implementation, said Jezek. “The solution was so straightforward we had no problems installing it ourselves. After that, the Bcom team was off and running.”

Now, the firm’s administrators are able to use their single Active Directory (AD) identity across their entire environment. This

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*Jan Jezek, Owner and director of
Business Communication*

also enables them to utilize their AD password policy and Kerberos authentication, thus further enhancing their security.

"With a single identity, our administrators can easily remember their password, even if it is complex and is required to be updated more frequently. No longer do they have to take the extra time to look in some encrypted password store to log in to a server," said Jezek.

Additionally, they are able to log all activity in one place, which makes reporting and compliance much simpler.

"The ability to log access in one place is quite advantageous for us," Jezek said, "Now we have a single identity, and we can be absolutely sure that it is the same account across the servers. In addition if we have some kind

of issue or need to add a new administrator, we can do it on multiple servers simultaneously," Jezek said. "And if someone leaves, we only need to disable the active directory account and then access to all UNIX and Linux servers associated with that account is revoked instantly."

About One Identity

One Identity helps organizations optimize identity and access management (IAM). Our combination of offerings, including a portfolio of identity governance, access management, privileged management and identity as a service solutions, enables organizations to achieve their full potential – unimpeded by security, yet safeguarded against threats.

For more information, visit www.oneidentity.com