KLÉSIA
PROTECTION ET INNOVATION SOCIALES

Secure administrators' access with a sterile, controlled and single-use work environment

Challenge:
> Centralize the management of internal and external privileged accounts
> Better protect administrators' accounts and avoid usurpation of rights

Solution:
> IPdiva Cleanroom

Benefits:
> Meeting the security requirements for privileged accounts (Combining VDI, PAM, SSO and VPN technologies)
> Licensing mode with simultaneous users and unlimited resources, adapted to the company's needs
> Standardization of the administrators' workstations

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Systancia's solution offers all the classic features of bastion hosts, which are always more or less the same. The difference, however, is precisely the Cleanroom element - the only solution that solves the usurpation of administration rights issue.

Yann Renaud
Head of Cross-functional Projects, Architecture and IT Security

The challenge

With 3,500 employees spread over 27 sites in France, Klesia is a non-profit social protection group created by the merger between the Mornay and D&O groups in 2012.

While redesigning its information system, Klesia's IT department worked on a security master plan, focused on the implementation of a PAM (Privileged Access Management) solution. Within Klesia, there are more than 1000 privileged accounts, divided into 5 historical directories. The main objective of the IT department was to centralize these accounts and to be able to trace their actions. An audit also revealed the need to have better protected administrator accounts to avoid any risk of usurpation.

Since Klesia regularly uses outsourced services, the solution chosen for this project had to offer the same security guarantees no matter if the administrator is internal or external to the company.

The solution

After launching a call for tenders, Yann Renaud, Head of Cross-functional projects, architecture and IT security at Klésia, and his team met the major editors on the market. After thorough consideration, Klesia chose to implement the IPdiva Cleanroom solution.

"Systancia's solution offers all the classic features of bastion hosts, which are always more or less the same. The difference, however, is precisely the Cleanroom element.", said Yann Renaud. IPdiva Cleanroom provides a completely sterile, controlled and single-use administrator workstation. This virtual workstation meets one of ANSSI's* key recommendations: separating administrator and *"traditional"* workstations. The separation is made possible by providing an environment dedicated to the administrator's critical tasks, completely isolated from the usual environment.

*ANSSI - French Agency for Cyber Security

Systancia

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Meeting administrator workstation requirements

Like any PAM solution, IPdiva Cleanroom records the administrators' sessions so that they can be checked if an incident is detected. It is thus possible to react in real time in case of an issue, by deciding to suspend or interrupt the administrator's session. A password vault stores all login/passwords associated with the resources the administrator can access. It is also used to manage passwords' lifecycle and complexity.

The unique feature of IPdiva Cleanroom is the provision of a virtualized and sealed workstation, that can be recycled for every session, with advanced functionalities allowing to enhance the workstation's security. According to Yann Renaud, by combining all these technological components, PAM, VDI, SSO and VPN, the *"attack surface is significantly reduced."*

Licensing mode with simultaneous users and unlimited resources, adapted to the company's needs

Klesia regularly uses outsourced services, and therefore does not control the number of administrators who might work on its information system. The licensing mode, with simultaneous users and unlimited resources, instead of single resources or named users, corresponds best to their context.: *"This may seem like a small detail… but, in our context, it is not!"*, said Yann Renaud.

Standardization of the Administrator Workstation

By implementing IPdiva Cleanroom, Klesia's IT department has started to think about standardizing the system administrator's job and practices. The objective is for Klesia's internal and external administrators to have standardized workstations, not permanent ones. In this way, the product will guarantee the sterility of each session.

About IPdiva Cleanroom

IPdiva Cleanroom is a solution combining PAM, VDI, SSO and VPN technologies to provide a single-use, sterile and monitored work environment that meets growing security requirements. IPdiva Cleanroom provides a virtualized, fully sealed and recyclable workstation for every use in association with password policy enhancement mechanisms, real-time monitoring of actions taken on critical resources and secure mobility.

About Systancia

Systancia is a recognized European software vendor in virtualization, security, and digital confidence, offering the next generation of application delivery infrastructure, focused on users and security: SBC and VDI, external access security, Privileged Access Management (PAM), SSO and Identity and Access Management (IAM).

Leveraging innovation as a growth engine, Systancia relies on the technological value of its products and the proximity between its teams and its customers to meet the needs of users, enabling it to achieve 98% customer satisfaction.

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