



Allow hospital staff to work from home without compromising the IT security of the healthcare entity.

Challenges:

- > Allow hospital staff to work from home without compromising the IT security of the healthcare entity
- > Guarantee a rapid deployment of the solution in a crisis context

Solution:

> Systancia Gate

Benefits:

- Simple and quick implementation of the solution
- > Use of personal computers (BYOPC) without risk for the information system
- > Double authentication system to protect against most standard attacks

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Activating Systancia Gate was easy. The implementation and user training were carried out without difficulty. No need to install an extension. On the other hand, it also allows to separate the user's actions on his workstation and on the system, sealing both spaces. With Systancia Gate, we are therefore able to allow staff members to work from home - whether they use their personal computer or not while protecting the hospital's information system.

Amré Abou Ali CISO



Challenges

Created by the merger of the Maison Blanche, Perray-Vaucluse and Sainte-Anne hospitals, the "Groupe Hospitalier Universitaire (GHU) Paris psychiatrie et neurosciences" is the leading Parisian hospital for mental and nervous system diseases. With 170 healthcare facilities (ambulatory, hospitalization, emergency) spread throughout the capital, 66,000 users, i.e. 1 in 40 Parisians, are received each year by the 5,600 health professionals of the GHU, which has 600 physicians.

As soon as the general lockdown due to the Covid-19 epidemic was announced, all organizations - including hospitals - had to implement business continuity conditions for their staff by allowing them to work remotely. In this context, Paris GHU chose Systancia to allow their employees whose jobs allowed them to work from home to access to their workstations easily and in complete security: "We had implemented various actions before the announcement of the general lockdown to prepare for the working from home context: provision of laptops when possible, securing remote access, etc. We had to provide our agents with seamless secure access to their own workstations to avoid vulnerabilities. We were already working with Systancia, so we contacted the company - like other players - from the first post-lockdown weekend", explains Amré ABOU ALI, CISO at Paris GHU.

The solution

In response to the call of the State Secretary for Digital Technology when the general lockdown was announced, Systancia decided to offer its working from home solution, Systancia Gate, formerly known as IPdiva Secure, free of charge for a period of three months. This action is the result of a close cooperation with OVHCloud, the developer of the infrastructure on which this solution is based.

Therefore, Paris GHU decided to choose Systancia Gate to quickly deploy working from home on a large scale to all hospital staff who could benefit from it.

Thanks to the efficiency and availability of Systancia's teams, and under the guidance of the entity functional support coordinator, Antoine Barrachon, Systancia Gate was deployed and configured very quickly. In just one weekend, the solution allowed around one hundred employees from different departments (HR, billing, communication, etc.) to continue their work as best they could.



Simple and quick implementation of the solution

Because of the emergency, the solution had to be deployed very quickly and therefore it was important not to require long and complex configurations. Systancia Gate was deployed in a weekend and thanks to its ease of use, the users benefiting from the solution were trained without difficulty and thus became autonomous in using the solution very quickly.

This ease of use is due in part to the HTML5 technology. It allows users to access their desktop remotely via a simple browser, without the need to install any extension.

Securing work from home for employees who use their personal computers

To prepare for the working from home context, as soon as the general lockdown was announced, Paris GHU provided their employees with laptops whenever possible. The limited number of laptops available required a certain number of employees to use their personal computers.

However, this large-scale work from home cannot be done at the expense of the hospitals' IT security, while the Covid19 epidemic is still raging and putting a lot of pressure on the organization. Not to mention the growing number of cyber attacks targeting hospitals (denial of service, phishing, ransomware, etc).

Systancia Gate, based on the Zero Trust principle (ZTNA - Zero Trust Network Access), allows the use of any workstation, including personal computers, to enter the networks of companies, administrations or hospitals. This would not be possible, in a secure manner, with older technology such as VPN (Virtual Private Network). Deployed in just a few hours, Systancia Gate allows several thousand workers to enjoy the same working environment as the one used in the office every day.

Double authentication system for better access protection

Systancia Gate offers enhanced authentication features based on the entry of a "temporary one-time password" or OTP token, available via an external transmission channel (SMS or email). Systancia Gate natively integrates the operators' functions allowing an immediate reception of the OTP by sms (vs. 1 minute via email). This enhanced authentication ensures that the user who has produced the credentials is the one to whom the OTP token is sent.

This is even more important in a working from home context where employees access applications or health data that are confidential by nature. The double authentication system is an additional security feature that has been activated by the GHU as it protects remote access from most standard attacks.

About Systancia

At Systancia, we value ingenuity to innovate. We blend application virtualization, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence to create unique, award-winning and certified solutions. Behind every workplace, there is a person who deserves to be empowered and trusted. This is our belief and our goal. This is why hundreds of public and private organizations choose Systancia, to unlock the potential of everyone, in full trust. With all our R&D in France, we sell our application virtualization (VDI), private access (ZTNA), privileged access management (PAM) and identity and access management (IAM) solutions across the globe, with our valued partners.

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