Grosfillex

Grosfillex secures external access to its IT System with IPdiva

Challenge:
Allow external access to an IT system historically sealed

Solution:
> IPdiva Secure
> IPdiva Care

Benefits:
> Selective and controlled external access
> Traceability to critical resource access
> Improved user experience

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Grosfillex is one of IPdiva solution first users, and we appreciate we can work in a close collaboration with Systancia teams and benefit from their real proximity and reactivity. IPdiva Secure and IPdiva Care solutions are scalable solutions that allow easily to take into account new needs in terms of external access to our IT system's critical resources security.

Franck FERREIRA
IT study manager
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The challenges

Grosfillex is a company that transforms plastic materials, operating more particularly within the housing sector and its environment. Present internationally with production sites in France, the United States and Brazil, Grosfillex relies notably on commercial branches located in numerous countries and a network of distributors for sales of windows to private individuals in France.

Grosfillex's IT system, the product of a "best of breed" strategy, gathers more than 500 workstations, approximately 100 physical and virtual servers, about 300 phones and smartphones and around 100 applications, including 3 ERPs. In terms of IT security, the metaphor "a secret life is a happy life" summarizes the firm's strategy. Indeed, it was the desire of the management to make external access to this IT system impossible, in order to guarantee its security. Nevertheless, with the emergence of new uses, in particular in terms of mobility, deploying a solution that allows roaming users to access the system externally became necessary. Grosfillex also wanted its service providers to have remote access to its infrastructure, while continuing to guarantee the security of its IT system.

Grosfillex's Chief Information Officer (CIO) was therefore looking for a solution for securing and ensuring traceability of external access that was simple to administer, in order to:

> grant external access without having to create IPsec tunnels or point-to-point VPNs,

> assign specific resources to selected employees and/or partners,

> control the users and devices connecting to the network.

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The solution

The solution was chosen by means of a call for bids. Among the different offers received by Grosfillex's CIO, the choice naturally fell to IPdiva Secure, a security solution in VPN SSL mode which meets all the CIO's requirements and security constraints: control of third parties access to the IT System resources via an internet network, without compromising its security policies. Grosfillex chose a tool in SaaS mode since IPdiva's infrastructure is based on a mediation server hosted by the Systancia Company and gateways implemented in Grosfillex's infrastructure.

Secured and selective external access

The IPdiva Secure solution meets Grosfillex's current security requirements by allowing the IT service to manage, via a web portal, the access of roaming users, VIPs and external service providers to the IT System, while guaranteeing the control of these external connections. The solution manages up to 50 simultaneous connections and can easily evolve to handle more connections.

These external access capabilities are selective and controlled, meaning that the user gains access, via an agent, only to the set of resources for which he has access rights, as if he were in the office. Grosfillex uses the IPdiva infrastructure (Gateway-to-Gateway link) to ensure the backup of the network links between the different production locations.

Access traceability for reinforced security

Grosfillex has decided to implement the IPdiva Care solution in its IPdiva infrastructure in order to benefit from the session video recording feature. IPdiva Care offers reinforced traceability by capturing and recording any intervention, and its playback in video format. Grosfillex can thus analyze all of the actions occurring on the critical resources of its infrastructure, and monitor their legitimacy. The solution was put in place to manage 5 simultaneous access, and the CIO plans to expand the use to track all of the actions taken by its contractors.

HTML5 compatibility to enhance the user experience

The CIO recently changed to the new version of IPdiva Secure in order to use new features such as HTML5 compatibility. It allows them to meet the users' expectations in terms of mobility, since it simplifies the use of the solution on new devices (tablets, such as the IPad) or on workstations for which the user (such as external contractor) does not have administrative rights.

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