POSITIVE TECHNOLOGIES

HANWHA GROUP EXTENDS ITS SECURITY REACH WITH MAXPATROL'S AGENTLESS TECHNOLOGY

Yoon Yong-Koo
Manager of Security Team

COMPANY PROFILE:

+ Industry: Manufacturing, Construction, Finance and Leisure

+ Revenues: US $35.1bn and No. 331 on the FORTUNE 500 (2014)

+ Operations: Korea, China and Japan with major subsidiaries and affiliates in 15 other countries

Hanwha

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THE CHALLENGE

Replace manual vulnerability checks with automated scans covering a wider range of systems

One of Korea's largest conglomerates, Hanwha Group, has business interests ranging from insurance and banking to solar energy generation and construction. Responsibility for IT across the group rests with Hanwha S&C, a subsidiary offering IT solutions and services to the global financial, manufacturing, construction and leisure industries from its data center near Seoul, Korea.

Until 2013, Hanwha S&C's approach to vulnerability management was time-consuming, costly and ineffective, leaving them at high risk for attack. "All of our systems, including servers, networks and databases were checked manually," says Yoon Yong-gu, head of Security Control for Hanwha Group. "This made us slow to act against new vulnerabilities and gave us only basic levels of vulnerability data."

To improve its overall security levels, Hanwha needed an automated vulnerability detection solution that would offer a low-level of false positives and also cover the widest possible range of its IT systems, including some that the company had been unable to assess with their manual process. Compliance management capabilities were another key requirement, in particular support for IT Security guidelines set by Korea's Ministry of Security and Public Administration (MOSPA).

Concerns about conflicts with operational systems meant that Hanwha was eager to avoid installing scanning agents on each node within their network. "Uppermost in our minds when we were looking for a solution was to guarantee the stability of our existing systems", explains Mr Yoon.

Finally, Hanwha's solution of choice would need to easily integrate with a custom-developed (in-house) system that had been built to report on and remediate alerts from various security systems such as IBM AppScan.

THE SOLUTION

MaxPatrol Vulnerability and Compliance Management

Hanwha S&C conducted benchmark tests on a number of vulnerability and compliance management systems and was impressed by MaxPatrol's support for MOSPA, the quality of its vulnerability data and low-level of false positives. "Unlike other vulnerability diagnostic systems that are based on agents, MaxPatrol is agentless which we believe will ensure the stability of our systems as well as guarantee the best quality scan results," says Mr Yoon.

HIGHLIGHTS

+ Strengthens security as regular scans lead to faster resolutions

+ Extends the security team's reach with visibility into a wider range of systems

+ Saves time and money by automating manual checks

+ Ensures system stability with agentless technology

But during their testing, Hanwha was also evaluating the knowledge and responsiveness of Positive Technologies technical experts. "The deciding factor for choosing MaxPatrol was that we trusted Positive Technologies Korea," Mr Yoon adds. "We felt we could count on continuous and reliable support from them throughout the entire project."

MaxPatrol is installed at Hanwha S&C's data center where it has visibility into security levels and configuration settings for a wide range of IT systems including Windows and Linux servers, databases and network devices. Hanwha was easily able to integrate MaxPatrol into its existing IT Security processes. The company's custom-developed reporting system requests audit, vulnerability and compliance assessments via MaxPatrol's APIs. MaxPatrol carries out the requested assessments and delivers the resulting CVE-compatible data to Hanwha's system, in an agreed to XML format.

THE BENEFITS

Increased security and lower costs with automated, frequent assessments of more systems

"Before MaxPatrol, Hanwha Group conducted vulnerability diagnosis only once a year because it was a manual job that took so much time. But with MaxPatrol, we are now able to assess our systems four times a year, meaning we can fix vulnerabilities much faster", says Mr Yoon.

But faster detection is not the only way in which MaxPatrol has improved overall security levels. "We can also detect and analyze vulnerabilities over a wider range of our systems than before," he adds. "And we have lowered our costs since we don't have to conduct manual checks anymore."

MaxPatrol is now a key part of Hanwha's new information security practice. With its comprehensive system audits, the company has a true picture of all the assets in their network, assuring nodes are not missed during security assessments and software upgrades. Meanwhile, MaxPatrol's support for the MOSPA standards allows Hanwha's information security team to be prepared well in advance of government audits.

About Positive Technologies

Positive Technologies is a leading provider of vulnerability assessment, compliance management and threat analysis solutions to more than 1,000 global enterprise clients. Our solutions work seamlessly across your entire business: securing applications in development; assessing your network and application vulnerabilities; assuring compliance with regulatory requirements; and blocking real-time attacks. Our commitment to clients and research has earned Positive Technologies a reputation as one of the foremost authorities on SCADA, Banking, Telecom, Web Application and ERP security, and distinction as the #1 fastest growing Security and Vulnerability Management firm in 2012, as shown in an IDC report*. To learn more about Positive Technologies please visit www.ptsecurity.com.

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