TREND MICRO™ | Securing Your Journey to the Cloud

Secure Journey to Virtualization and Cloud for #1 Bank in UAE

National Bank of Abu Dhabi introduces Trend Micro™ Deep Security™ for flexible, robust data center security.

"Deep Security also helps us with PCI and other compliance requirements. The breadth of the functionality, in one solution, is a strong and logical addition in our environment."

— **Hossam Elkobrosy, Head of IT Infrastructure,** National Bank of Abu Dhabi

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Customer Name: National Bank of Abu Dhabi
Industry: Finance
Location: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Web site: www.nbad.ae
Number of Employees: 5,000

CHALLENGE:

- Maintain the Bank's top rankings for safe banking
- Avoid vulnerabilities associated with the move to virtualization and cloud infrastructure/service models
- Keep PCs and servers performing optimally, without being overtaxed by security scans and updates
- Flexibly scale security as the infrastructure grows

SOLUTION:

- Continue to rely on Trend Micro™ Enterprise Security solutions for endpoint protection, intrusion defense, and messaging security at the mail server
- Add Trend Micro Deep Security, and take advantage of multiple capabilities to protect virtualized and traditional servers in the data center

BUSINESS RESULTS:

- "Light & Lean" endpoint performance
- Added layers of protection for mission-critical servers, including file integrity management and intrusion detection/prevention for virtualized servers
- Ease of deployment, with a single, multi-function security solution
- Smooth security roadmap that extends protection into virtualized and cloud environments

Challenge

National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD) surpassed the US$1 billion net profits mark in 2010, becoming the first UAE bank to reach this milestone. The company's success has been recognized with a myriad of awards, including being named the "best bank in the UAE" in 2011, for the third consecutive year and for the fifth time in a decade by Euromoney.

NBAD has also been repeatedly ranked as one of the "World's 50 Safest Banks" and the "Safest Bank in the Middle East" by Global Finance. This ranking in particular is a trusted standard of credit-worthiness for the financial industry.

Security has played a vital contribution towards earning these awards, accolades, and the trust of its customer base. Recently, as the company's technology team introduced virtualization into its main data center, NBAD reconsidered its overall security strategy and challenged the IT infrastructure group to minimize risks to the bank's reputation as it evolved its compute model and infrastructure architecture to leverage advanced technologies.

Solution

For almost a year, the bank has relied on Trend Micro Enterprise Security to extend protection from malware and other threats to endpoints, file servers, and mail servers.

"Trend Micro Enterprise Security has given us a steady stream of innovations to keep up with the various threats as they emerge," explained Hossam Elkobrosy, head of IT infrastructure for NBAD. "Last year we added the Trend Micro Intrusion Defense Firewall plug-in, and this year we are going to evaluate the new Data Loss Prevention plug-in since it is critical that we prudently protect our data and intellectual property. With its plug-in architecture, Trend Micro™ OfficeScan™ makes it easy to deploy and manage new security functionality as it becomes available."

Trend Micro™ Enterprise Security products like OfficeScan are powered by the Trend Micro™ Smart Protection Network™ infrastructure, which delivers advanced protection from the cloud. Threats are blocked in real-time, before they reach the bank or its customer data.

Recently, NBAD has started to leverage server virtualization technology using VMware vSphere. Although still in the early stages, the bank already cites the advantages of consolidation, increased availability, and faster provisioning times for virtualized servers. However, the bank needs to be sure that the benefits of virtualization are not overshadowed by increased vulnerability to security breaches.

"We carried out a proof of concept to fully investigate security capabilities within virtualized server environments," said Mr. Elkobrosy. "Trend Micro Deep Security is our top choice because it gives us many security features that include file integrity management and intrusion defense/prevention, and it can protect Windows and UNIX platforms.

"Deep Security also helps us with PCI and other compliance requirements. The breadth of the functionality, combined in one solution, is a strong and logical addition in our environment."

Results

With the successful evaluation of Deep Security features, NBAD remains confident in its overall security stance.

"Our Trend Micro Enterprise Security solution has always given us the flexibility we need to grow our infrastructure and introduce new technologies confidently," said Mr. Elkobrosy. "The protection that Trend Micro offers comes with a small footprint—something that is very important to us.

"NBAD operates in 13 countries; we have 170 branches and offices in UAE and overseas. With Enterprise Security for Endpoints, we conserve our network traffic and are not required to have a scan server at each site. It gives us better control of our network bandwidth without sacrificing protection or performance. Smart Protection servers and Smart Protection Network is a very resource efficient model for security."

Now, with Deep Security added in the data center, NBAD protects its virtualized and traditional server environment as the company explores the cost benefits and flexibility of consolidating its centralized resources.

"Deep Security, with agentless malware protection as well as hypervisor security, can also extend protection to virtual desktop infrastructure if we choose to go that direction," said Mr. Elkobrosy. "We must continually evaluate new technologies and architectures, and VDI and private cloud are two areas that we are exploring. We might be able to utilize these for various teams and service delivery. It is good to know that Trend Micro is always working to evolve security approaches to keep up with the opportunities and challenges in a fast-paced world of IT."

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DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

Central data center

More than 110 branches in the UAE

Almost 50 branches and 60 ATMs outside the country

5,000 PCs, more than 900 servers

VMware vSphere for server virtualization (10:1 consolidation)

Trend Micro Enterprise Security for Endpoints, including:

- Trend Micro OfficeScan 10.5
- Trend Micro Intrusion Defense Firewall 1.2
- Trend Micro ServerProtect for EMC 5.8

Trend Micro ScanMail for Microsoft Exchange 10.0

Trend Micro Deep Security 7.5

Company Profile

National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD) is an award-winning leader in the UAE and GCC financial services industry. Incorporated in 1968, the Bank has a network of more than 110 branches in the UAE and also provides around-the-clock access through Internet banking. NBAD's international network stretches from the Middle East to Asia, Africa, Europe, and the U.S. The Bank provides customers with a wide variety of financial services targeting all segements of the consumer and corporate markets in addition to fund management, brokerage, financial markets, leasing, property management, and private banking businesses.

Trend Micro Security

- **Trend Micro Enterprise Security for Endpoints**
  http://us.trendmicro.com/us/products/enterprise/security-for-endpoints/index.html
- **ScanMail for Exchange**
  http://us.trendmicro.com/us/products/enterprise/scanmail-for-microsoft-exchange/index.html
- **Trend Micro Core Protection Module**
  http://us.trendmicro.com/us/solutions/enterprise/security-solutions/endpoint-security/endpoint-security-platform/core-protection-module/index.html
- **Trend Micro Deep Security**
  http://us.trendmicro.com/us/solutions/enterprise/security-solutions/virtualization/deep-security/index.html

Trend Micro Enabling Technology

- **Trend Micro Smart Protection Network**
  http://us.trendmicro.com/us/trendwatch/core-technologies/smart-protection-network/

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