

Case Study

SVB Selects Finjan to Secure Its Network from Web Threats



Challenge

To secure SVB's advanced ICT infrastructure from web-based malware threats, while simplifying management and increasing productivity

Solution

Finjan Vital Security™ Web Appliance, featuring real-time content inspection to prevent malicious web content from entering corporate network

Results

Unsurpassed real-time web security, reduction in maintenance efforts and resources, and enhanced user experience

Background

If you have lived or worked in The Netherlands, sooner or later you will come into contact with the Sociale Verzekeringsbank (SVB). With over 4.6 million clients, SVB is an independent administrative body that implements social security schemes for various government agencies. Its responsibilities include the administration of retirement pensions, child benefits, survivor benefits, care allowances for handicapped children, and remigration assistance.

SVB's operational strategy is based on extensive deployment of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). A modern, reliable and secure ICT infrastructure enables SVB to implement large-scale social security schemes. ICT is used to link SVB's headquarters, located outside of Amsterdam, with its nine branch offices (see map). This advanced infrastructure also supports integration of several customer channels, such as the website and the call centers.

Security is a key element of SVB's operational management strategy. A secure ICT infrastructure is vital to ensure efficient operations across its various offices in The Netherlands and abroad. Privacy of client information is paramount and mandated by law. Accordingly, SVB is aware of the need to safeguard its highly sensitive information assets from today's sophisticated web-based threats, such as crimeware, Trojans and other types of malicious code, which specifically target this type of information.

"Considering the sensitive nature of the information we maintain and the volume of financial transactions we handle, there is no room for compromise in the area of information security," Arjan van de Velde, IT Specialist at SVB.

Business Challenge and Requirements

Although the SVB is not a normal financial institute as the word "bank" in the name does suggest, it has to be protected effectively against cybercriminals. "We realized that our traditional anti-virus solutions had serious limitations when it came to detecting unknown malware and stealthy crimeware attacks originating from the web," stated Arjan van de Velde, IT Specialist at SVB. As a result, SVB sought a real-time solution that prevents Trojans and other malicious web content from entering its corporate network.

SVB's thousands of users are divided into three different levels, depending on their particular responsibilities and department. For example, certain personnel may require web access to perform research and other work-related activities, while others should not be allowed access at all. Thus, SVB needed the ability to define specific security policies for different groups of users.

Previously, SVB worked with trusted lists (i.e., whitelists) of URLs that were only scanned for viruses and not for malicious code in active content. However, since today's crimeware and malware often use legitimate websites as their staging ground, SVB required a solution that analyzes all web content coming into its network, regardless of the URL origin.

In order to ensure interoperability with existing network devices, SVB required a solution that was fully ICAP compliant. In addition, SVB preferred an integrated gateway solution, combining real-time web content scanning and anti-virus, with a single point of management.



Finjan Vital Security™
Web Appliance NG-5100



"Since deployment of Finjan's secure web gateway solution, maintenance of our security solution has become much easier and requires less resources"

Arjan van de Velde, IT Specialist at SVB

Finjan's Secure Web Gateway Solution

With these requirements in mind, SVB chose Finjan's secure web gateway solution, based on the award-winning Vital Security™ Web Appliance NG-5100. The solution was implemented by Pinewood, an authorized Finjan reseller in The Netherlands. Finjan's proven and comprehensive solution features patented real-time content inspection technology to detect and block known and unknown malicious web threats. During the evaluation phase, it became clear to SVB that Finjan was the preferred vendor with a true solution against dynamic malicious content like crimeware and Trojans.

Deployed at the Internet gateway, four NG-5100 appliances currently support SVB's 3500 users in a high availability configuration. These "all-in-one" appliances feature Finjan's real-time content inspection, Vulnerability Anti.dote™ and Anti-Spyware engines, as well as Kaspersky's fully integrated Anti-Virus engine.. SVB's users access the Internet via the Blue Coat proxy, which is fully interoperable with Finjan's appliances via ICAP.

Finjan's real-time content inspection technology is uniquely capable of analyzing web content in real-time regardless of its source, breaking down the code and understanding its true intent without executing it on the end user's machine. Finjan delivers the highest rate of malicious code detection and prevention, allowing organizations to safeguard their most valuable asset – their information.

By integrating several security engines in a single appliance, Finjan's comprehensive and integrated web security solution facilitates deployment, simplifies management, and reduces total cost of ownership. In addition, the appliance's flexible policy management lets SVB enforce its web browsing policy by defining specific security policies to specific groups of users. "Since deployment of Finjan's secure web gateway solution, maintenance of our security solution has become much easier and requires less resources," said Arjan van de Velde, IT Specialist at SVB.

Key Benefits and Results

Finjan's Secure Web Gateway solution enables SVB to meet fully its business requirements:

- Securing its IT network from malicious and stealthy web threats, such as crimeware and Trojans, that often bypass signature-based security methods
- Enhanced performance and maximum user productivity
- Protection of private customer information
- Reduced administration efforts and resources
- Granular security policies for specific groups of users
- Integrated security engines with single point of management, provisioning and reporting

“ Finjan's real-time web security protects our sensitive information from stealthy Trojans and crimeware ”



Arjan van de Velde,
IT Specialist at SVB

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Finjan - Securing Your Web

Finjan Secure Web Gateway Appliances for Enterprises



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