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Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group Chooses Cygilant for Its Unmatched Security Monitoring and Vulnerability Management Services

Challenge

Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group, Corp (Gold Star) needed world-class IT security services to monitor its extensive network and have the ability to perform regular scans for vulnerabilities in order to build an enterprise-class security program as well as confidently meet industry standards and regulatory laws.

Solution

Gold Star chose Cygilant's SOCVue® Security Monitoring and SOCVue Vulnerability Management services that provide 24/7/365 continuous security monitoring of its entire IT infrastructure and unlimited vulnerability scans of critical IT systems for known vulnerabilities.

Results

Gold Star now has real-time security monitoring of all of its IT assets, resulting in superior network visibility. The company is also able to identify, assess, and remediate vulnerabilities as quickly as possible.

Gold Star
Mortgage Financial Group

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Now with both of Cygilant's security services combined, I can be much more proactive in seeing what's happening in my network and I have the added bonus of an amazing company to help me identify and fix issues quickly and efficiently.

Andrew Bezenah, Information Technology & Information Security Manager, Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group

Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group Needed to Take Its Security Posture to the Next Level

Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group, Corp (Gold Star) is one of the most respected and fastest-growing mortgage lenders in the nation. That success has been created byproviding superior customer service with employees who truly care about customer satisfaction.

Gold Star's IT department is responsible for 32 networks, 350 employees, and more than 500 devices, machines, and servers. With a network as extensive as this, an enterprise-class security program became a must-have. The IT staff required a better way to effectively monitor the network as well as proactively identify, assess, and remediate vulnerabilities in the network. With the number of exploitable vulnerabilities increasing over time, Gold Star's primary goal was to find vulnerability management and security monitoring services that complemented each other in order to help protect its critical assets. Andrew Bezenah, Gold Star's Information Technology and Information Security Manager, was tasked with finding the IT security services that would improve his company's security posture.

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Other security solutions I researched weren't nearly as developed or robust as Cygilant's SOCVue services. Also, most of the other vendors I spoke with couldn't work with certain critical devices in my network such as Extreme switches, but Cygilant could.

Andrew Bezenah

Searching for a Vendor That Offered Comprehensive IT Security Services

During Bezenah's search for the right vendor, he spoke with several different companies, but none of them seemed to offer what he needed until he discovered Cygilant. "Other security solutions I researched weren't nearly as developed or robust as Cygilant's SOCVue services," Bezenah stated. "Also, most of the other vendors I spoke with couldn't work with certain critical devices in my network such as Extreme switches, but Cygilant could." His need for comprehensive IT security services made it easy to decide that Cygilant's SOCVue Security Monitoring and SOCVue Vulnerability Management services were the right investment for Gold Star. Bezenah added, "The price point for all that Cygilant was offering was incredible compared to the other services and products I was looking at."

Vulnerability Management Performed the Really Hard Way

Prior to using Cygilant's SOCVue Vulnerability Management service, Bezenah had a very painful way of performing vulnerability assessments. "Before using SOCVue Vulnerability Management, I was basically researching vulnerabilities on my own by searching forums for fixes and relying solely on vendor updates and patches to come out." But that's not the case anymore. Bezenah and Gold Star now reap the benefits of a vulnerability management service that offers:

- **Regular scanning of critical IT systems for known vulnerabilities**

- **Prioritization of vulnerabilities based on the company's unique business and security needs;**

- **Clear remediation guidance provided in easy-to-read reports;**

- **Help meeting compliance requirements for vulnerability management, and**

- **Insightful correlation of vulnerability results with active attacks complemented by the SOCVue Security Monitoring service.**

"Now with both of Cygilant's security services combined, I can be much more proactive in seeing what's happening in my network and I have the added bonus of an amazing company to help me identify and fix issues quickly and efficiently," Bezenah said.

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The overall experience with Cygilant has been incredible. Cygilant's SOCVue hybrid security as a service have saved me a lot of time, money, and resources that I can now dedicate to more important areas. Where I thought I needed a big security team to help manage my security operations I now have Cygilant's SOC team, which is much more cost effective and available 24/7.

Andrew Bezenah

Simple Implementation and Superb Customer Service

One of the biggest selling points of Cygilant's SOCVue services for Bezenah was having the ability to supplement his existing IT staff with Cygilant's SOC team. "I now receive extra support and have weekly calls with my dedicated SOC team who monitors my network 24/7 and let me know exactly which areas within my network I should be focusing on. I'm finally able to remove the guesswork from the process and pay full attention to any gaps in my security posture," he said.

Bezenah was also impressed by how quickly Cygilant was able to build, configure, and start showing actionable results within hours of the SOCVue implementation. He noted, "The overall experience with Cygilant has been incredible. Cygilant's SOCVue hybrid security as a service solutions have saved me a lot of time, money, and resources that I can now dedicate to more important areas. Where I thought I needed a big security team to help manage my security operations I now have Cygilant's SOC team, which is much more cost-effective and available 24/7."

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Andrew Bezenah

Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group Now Has 24/7/365 Network Visibility and Dependable Vulnerability Management

Now that Gold Star is using Cygilant's SOCVue Security Monitoring service, the company is benefiting from proactive security monitoring, log management, SIEM, and incident notification with remediation guidance that provides its IT team with 24/7/365 visibility of its environment. What's more, the IT team is supplemented by Cygilant's expertly trained SOC analysts who keep an eye out for any anomalous activity in the network so the IT team can focus on other important IT needs. Additionally, Bezenah and his team can use Cygilant's SOCVue Vulnerability Management service to stay up to date on all the latest zero-day threats so they can maintain the strongest security posture possible. Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group's improved security posture also includes compliance with various industry regulations, such as GLBA and FFIEC, which is a vital component to its business. Now the company finally has the enhanced security program it sought to achieve with the help of Cygilant's SOCVue hybrid security as a service.

"Cygilant has a great service and can help automate and increase visibility throughout your entire IT infrastructure. Using open source tools and wasting valuable time doing it all yourself just isn't worth it. The cost for 24/7 monitoring and weekly calls with Cygilant's SOC team is far more affordable than what you would pay for one security technician. Cygilant is absolutely worth the investment if you're tired of spending a lot of time using multiple ineffective tools or trying to invest budget into building a big security team," Bezenah concluded.

How Can Cygilant Help You?

Having a clear view into your company's network activity is one of the core foundations of a strong security posture. The ability to see the level of traffic your devices are experiencing and what actions are being performed and by whom is a vital component of discovering abnormalities in your network. Effective network security monitoring allows IT security professionals to detect both external and internal behavior patterns and take immediate action before suffering a cyber attack. Additionally, having a vulnerability management and patch management service allows you to easily correlate vulnerability and patch results with active or previous attack attempts that are detected in your network. Lastly, ensuring that your organization is completely secure, specifically when it comes to your log management, SIEM, network monitoring, vulnerability management, patch management, and compliance requirements, is important for those in industries with strict compliance regulations.

About Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group

Founded in 2000, Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group, Corporation is one of the nation's premier mortgage companies, originating billions in home loans throughou the United States. Headquartered in Ann Arbor, MI, Gold Star has been named one of the fastest growing companies by Inc. Magazine and has been routinely honored for both industry-shaping technology and workplace culture. Gold Star will continue to expand its footprint in new areas of the US, while maintaining its commitment to delivering unsurpassed relationship-based service. For more information regarding Gold Star, please visit http://www.goldstarfinancial.com or contact them at 888.830.4942.

About Cygilant

Cygilant, a pioneer in **hybrid security as a service**, is transforming how mid-market organizations build enterprise-class security programs. Acting as an extension of our customers' IT teams, Cygilant provides continuous security operations based on best-of-breed technology at a fraction of the cost of alternate solutions. Cygilant is a trusted advisor to organizations that need to improve their IT security and compliance posture and protect against cyber threats and vulnerabilities.

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