



Safe and Secure!

Business

Geojit, a joint venture with Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), offers complete wealth management solutions through 850 trained professionals and a pan-India network of over 175 offices to over 1.75 lakh clients in India. Geojit has more than Rs 1,500 crore in assets under its custody and management.

Objective

Geojit has a hybrid network, which comprises of VSAT links, leased lines, VPN, etc. All the branches are networked to the head office for online information dissemination and risk management. The total number of transactions executed daily over the company's network is almost 100,000. It also has a comprehensive trading website. When Geojit started offering its services online, various information security issues came to the fore. Geojit had implemented multiple components of security solutions at multiple levels, but managing them became an issue and company management realized that an integrated platform of security solutions was necessary.

Strategy

At Geojit, all the trading transactions done across India is dependent on the server at Cochin and securing that server was a critical issue. The features of the FortiGate-800 suited Geojit's requirements. One major consideration in favor of the FortiGate-800 was the Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and integrated antivirus solution bundled into a single platform. For the deployment of the FortiGate-800, Geojit roped in Axcenta as its implementation partner. A team of about five IT professionals from Geojit and three technical engineers from Axcenta were involved in the implementation, with remote support from one Fortinet engineer. Since Geojit is an online trading business, any downtime during the implementation was absolutely unwanted. At present, the solution has been implemented at one location, Cochin. Geojit did not exceed the budget planned for this exercise. Satisfied with the results and the support from Fortinet, Geojit is planning to deploy FortiGate-300 platforms at the three remaining locations, Geojit will be purchasing another FortiGate-800 box at its data center at Cochin to provide load-balancing and high-availability in case of a crisis.

Challenges

For Fortinet, Geojit was one of the most challenging deployments. Downtime on this network would have cost millions in online trade. To deal with this, the implementation was done over a weekend, when no online trading activity in India takes place. The entire deployment of the FortiGate-800 was done in a day and a half, though this process would typically have taken about 10 days.

RESULTS

- Since Fortigate is an integrated platform for security solutions, managing and controlling it is easy.
- The management has instant access to information about intrusions in the security system and can take immediate action accordingly.
- Filtering content is much more streamlined now.
- There is a competent secure platform for smooth transaction execution.



"There is always a trade off between performance and surveillance. Now, we are in a much more comfortable situation than before and we expect a better rate of customer satisfaction"

—Balakrishnan
CTO, Geojit Securities, Cochin



BFSI