

Carling Technologies Inc. simplified and fortified network security with Palo Alto PA-3000.

Company Background

Founded in 1920, Carling Technologies Inc., manufactures switch technology for a broad range of markets worldwide. With more than 2,200 employees and four ISO-registered manufacturing facilities, the company has an extensive global sales and distribution network.

The Situation

Carling was looking for a way to simplify network security at its data center and implement an advanced security solution to cover its entire enterprise, including its remote offices. The company was looking for an easy-to-use and easy-to-deploy solution with powerful security controls and reporting functions—one that could address challenging deployment issues, particularly in Carling’s remote facilities in China, where geographic location, connection speeds and a proliferation of security threats were particularly problematic. They also wanted to curb employees’ use of non-work internet activities.

The Challenge

An IT team headed by Chris Paul, Senior IT Specialist at Carling, was considering a solution consisting of a firewall, VPN and server-based URL filtering, each from a separate vendor. Each of the components had drawbacks, however. For example, the firewall was difficult to manage remotely, and the server-based URL filtering solution required the assistance of a technical consultant for deployment and support. As a result of these drawbacks, the IT team decided to look further.



Industry

Manufacturing

Customer Quote

“This single security appliance has reduced our management complexity significantly, while at the same time strengthening our security posture.”

*Chris Paul
Senior Network Administrator*

About Palo Alto PA-3000:

The PA-3000 Series Next-Generation Firewalls enables you to secure your organization through advanced visibility and control of applications, users, and content at throughput speeds of up to 4 Gbps. Dedicated computing and programmable hardware resources assigned to networking, security, signature matching, and management functions ensure predictable performance.



The Solution

Innovative Information Solutions recommended a better and more cost-effective alternative: a solution based on the Palo Alto Networks PA-3000 Series firewall, which gives users control over all applications, VPN access, integrated threat prevention and URL filtering in a single device. The VPN client setup makes secure remote access as simple as clicking a web link. Setting up firewall policy can be done in a single table. No additional client software, custom scripts or server operating system backups are required. After careful consideration, the Carling IT team was sold on the recommendation.

The Results

The Palo Alto Networks firewall solution Innovative implemented has simplified and improved Carling's security management capabilities and lowered operating costs. The company now has visibility into the specific identity of each application, which helps in the enforcement of usage policies. Employees' use of non-work-related applications and internet gaming has been halted. Filtering logs and reviewing reports can be done quickly and easily. And malware and application vulnerabilities are addressed proactively.

"Discovering what applications were running on the network was a huge advantage," said Chris Paul. "With the Palo Alto Networks firewall, we could see all the traffic and user activity which enables us to implement the correct policies to protect our environment."



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