<)> FORESCOUT®

ACCIONA

ACCIONA Manages and Controls the Users Connecting to Its Wireless Network with Forescout

3 DAYS
time to value

100%
compliance within a few months

30%
unknown devices discovered

acciona

Industry
Energy

Environment
3,500 wireless devices across 10 buildings in five cities

Challenge
- Prevent access to network by noncompliant or rogue devices to protect company from cyber attacks
- Empower employees and authorized guests to access network securely

Security Solution
- Forescout platform

Overview

ACCIONA is a leader in the development and management of infrastructure, renewable energy, water and services. Listed on the IBEX 35 stock exchange index, it is a benchmark for the market and has presence in 30 countries with more than 33,000 employees worldwide.

Less than a decade ago, ACCIONA was one of the main construction companies in Spain. The company has continued to immerse itself in a process of diversification, seeking business opportunities at the international level. During 2008, and after exiting Endesa in 2009, ACCIONA completed its transformation into a pioneering company in development and sustainability, converting itself into a global leader in the development, production and management of renewable energies, water and infrastructures with the minimum environmental impact.

As a pioneer in development and sustainability, ACCIONA has responded to the challenge of achieving sustainable development across all its business areas. One of ACCIONA's specific commitments is to gradually reduce its climate footprint and lead the transition to a low-carbon economy. As such, ACCIONA's activities and businesses avoided the emission of a total of 16.3 million tons of Co2 to the atmosphere in 2014.

Business Challenge

"In ACCIONA we wanted to have control of the users that were connected by Wi-Fi to the corporate network and therefore we needed to have a system that allowed us to identify the user, the device and its level of security in order to ensure compliance with ACCIONA policies provide access," says Juan Ignacio Gordon, Head of IT Security at ACCIONA.

"Secura, our trusted security partner, together with INGECOM, the authorized Value Added Distributor in Spain and Portugal, introduced us to the Forescout platform, and we decided to plan a proof of concept (PoC) which was very successful and gave us valuable info in record time," Gordon explains. "After the PoC we observed that the Forescout platform allowed us to know automatically and in real time who was connecting to our corporate network, from which device and whether this device had rogue applications or up-to-date antivirus software installed or not. In short, we had a complete picture of each device in our network. The best part is that the Forescout platform also remediates most of these problems and we can have more devices compliant with our security policies without disturbing users or administrators."

Why Forescout?

"One of the reasons why we chose the Forescout platform was that this technology doesn't rely on the 802.1X protocol, which makes the deployment very easy and the idea of not installing agents provides high performance and simplicity as well."

"In February 2014 we began to install the Forescout platform. With the help of Secura, the implementation process was straightforward. Customization and adaptation to certain requirements of our company was more complex. We wanted a very transparent and user-friendly system, but at the same time it needed to comply with our notification and security policies. When you have many different SSIDs, dozens of delegations and thousands of users with different Wi-Fi profiles (guests and external users), it is not an easy task. We tuned policies and created registration portals and after a few weeks the solution was completely deployed and running," explains Gordon.

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— Juan Ignacio Gordon, Head of IT Security at ACCIONA

Throughout the process of deployment, configuration and customization, we had the helping hand and expertise of Secura that was also in charge of training and supporting our IT team.

The Forescout platform has been deployed in most ACCIONA local offices in Spain. There are approximately 3,500 devices managed on wireless networks in ten buildings in Madrid, Alcobendas, Pamplona, Barcelona and Bilbao.

Business Impact

"After more than one year using the Forescout platform, we have obtained three quantifiable benefits: We are able to control network access in 80 percent of our sites, to identify 70 percent of computers/ mobile devices that access our network (the remaining 30 percent are not allowed to access because they are unknown devices) and finally we have achieved our initial target of policy compliance since 50 percent of the connected devices are compliant with our policies. At the moment , we expect to reach 100 percent compliance in a few months," details Gordon satisfied.

"The Forescout platform is diametrically opposed to any network access control (NAC) solution on the market. The visibility, management and control provided on devices attached to its powerful inventory allow us to classify appliances, users, applications and more. The captive portal for guest management automates user access, it discovers any unauthorized devices, checks how is the compliance with our standards and security policies and enforces the devices to take automatic actions in order to be compliant. The solution has a powerful IPS engine that blocks malware attacks on the network. Moreover, it integrates seamlessly with our existing infrastructure. In short, this tool has more than fulfilled our aim and enabled us to have a very high level of security in our offices."

"We are very satisfied, both with the dedication and professionalism of Secura as well as with the benefits of the Forescout platform, as it has allowed us to identify and control network access, and especially, thanks to its integration with Palo Alto Networks, which has helped us with identity management," concludes Gordon.

Learn more at Forescout.com