



How StrongPoint Stops Phishing, Ransomware and Other Advanced Threats in Their Tracks

INDUSTRY

Technology

HEADQUARTERS

Oslo, Norway

COMPANY SIZE

500+

PARTNER

Advania Group

OVERVIEW

StrongPoint’s retail technology makes stores smarter, so they can improve their customers’ online shopping experiences. The Norwegian company has worked with grocery retailers for over 35 years — understanding their problems and creating technology solutions that increase productivity, reduce costs and improve efficiency. StrongPoint has offices in eight countries and serves customers in more than 25 countries across four continents.

OUR SOLUTION



Harmony

Highest Level of Security for Remote Users



We’ve had no ransomware attacks, and we haven’t lost any customer accounts because of security incidents. The better you are at security, the more confident your customers are.

Oddbjørn Skauge, CIO, StrongPoint



CHALLENGE

Many of Europe's leading grocery retailers rely on StrongPoint solutions to increase operational efficiency and offer a seamless shopping experience for their customers. The company provides software-as-a-service (SaaS) solutions for e-commerce order fulfillment, self-service point-of-sale systems, home delivery, drive-through pickup, back-office operations and more. As a critical element of its customers' transactions and operations, StrongPoint handles large quantities of sensitive consumer data — including personally identifiable information (PII) and payment data — which is highly sought after by cybercriminals. Delivering a wide range of services to retailers across the globe requires a complex IT infrastructure that is deployed across more than 20 locations and several domains, leaving threat actors with no shortage of employees and endpoints to target.

Over the past few years, StrongPoint has significantly increased its security investment to keep pace with the threat landscape. "Preventive security is essential to keep our customers safe," said Oddbjørn Skauge, CIO at StrongPoint. "We've systematically enhanced security infrastructure and outsourced security services to increase protection for our infrastructure, users and customers." Still, StrongPoint's employees faced a deluge of malicious emails luring recipients to visit malicious websites or share their credentials. In addition, the company's vast ecosystem of endpoints needed to be safeguarded from zero-days, ransomware attacks and other emerging threats. To mitigate these escalating risks, and help StrongPoint's customer organizations provide a secure shopping experience, Skauge began his search for a platform to detect malicious emails and secure the company's ecosystem of connected devices.



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Oddbjørn Skauge, CIO, StrongPoint



SOLUTION

Advania Group, a Check Point partner in Norway, is StrongPoint's trusted consultation, implementation and security audit services provider. When the team's lead consultant asked Skauge what problem he would most like to solve, the answer was immediate: spam and phishing emails. "Advania told me, 'We can do that in five minutes,'" said Skauge. "After spending a few minutes with our operations manager, they implemented Check Point Harmony Email & Collaboration. Immediately, it blocked the phishing attacks and malware."

Next, Skauge wanted to secure StrongPoint's Norwegian domain, which comprises more than 700 endpoints, including desktop machines, laptops and servers. With Advania's help, Skauge and his team quickly had Check Point Harmony Endpoint up and running. "Harmony Endpoint prevents all of the current threats — including ransomware — from compromising our systems," said Skauge. "Advania showed us how Harmony Endpoint identifies ransomware behaviors and instantly remediates the attack chain." For an added layer of protection against credential-based attacks, Skauge leverages Check Point's Zero Phishing® blade, which prevents known and zero-day phishing attacks from compromising StrongPoint's web domains.

OUTCOME

With minimal configuration time, Skauge was able to block and remove thousands of malicious emails, attachments and URLs from employee inboxes. "We might see two or three really sophisticated threats in a year, whereas before Harmony, I'd see two or more every day," said Skauge. "It has been a huge time saver, not having to deal with malicious emails." StrongPoint's implementation of Harmony Email & Collaboration across its U.K. servers has also been a success. "Everything is clean now — it's brilliant," he said. The solution's coverage extends to users' personal emails as well. Even if an employee clicks on a malicious link while using their personal email account, Harmony Email & Collaboration prevents them from accessing malicious content. This is critical for Skauge and his team, as many StrongPoint employees use their own devices for both work and personal emails.

Check Point has also played an essential role in helping StrongPoint bring in new business. StrongPoint servers drive countless transactions daily, which makes its security posture critical to winning new accounts. Onboarding Check Point and following industry best practices for security and compliance gives StrongPoint's customers yet another reason to trust its decades-long track record of retail success. "We've had no ransomware attacks, and we haven't lost any customer accounts because of security incidents," said Skauge. "The better you are at security, the more confident your customers are." And with Check Point's help, StrongPoint is committed to being the most secure in the industry.

PARTNER

Advania (www.advania.com) is a Northern European IT service provider offering managed services, professional services and IT infrastructure, including cross-border data center services, communication centers, and a unique, all-encompassing cloud portal. Driven by the belief that value is created by people, for people, Advantia builds lasting customer-provider relationships by delivering technology solutions that make life easier for its clients.

ABOUT CHECK POINT

Check Point Software Technologies Ltd. (www.checkpoint.com) is a leading provider of cyber security solutions to corporate enterprises and governments globally. Check Point Infinity's portfolio of solutions protects enterprises and public organizations from 5th generation cyber-attacks with an industry leading catch rate of malware, ransomware and other threats. Infinity comprises three core pillars delivering uncompromised security and generation V threat prevention across enterprise environments: Check Point Harmony, for remote users; Check Point CloudGuard, to automatically secure clouds; and Check Point Quantum, to protect network perimeters and datacenters, all controlled by the industry's most comprehensive, intuitive unified security management; Check Point Horizon, a prevention-first security operations suite. Check Point protects over 100,000 organizations of all sizes.

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