

CASE STUDY

CLdN reinforces its network security management



Major player in logistics and European maritime freight operator, CLdN turned to Telindus to secure data exchanges for its employees - on-site and remote - and its ships. With the deployment of the solution provided by Telindus, the company now benefits from a single tool deployed from the cloud and integrating a set of security services. This has allowed for the flexibility and harmonization of security management across the entire IT perimeter of the group.

The Belgian-Luxembourgish maritime company CLdN is a major operator in freight transport across the English Channel. With a fleet of thirty ships, it transports containers, trailers, and new vehicles between various terminals managed by the company located in Zeebrugge (Belgium), Rotterdam and Vlissingen (the Netherlands), Killingholme and London (United Kingdom). "From these facilities, we offer our customers a range of integrated logistics services. We are able to pick up goods directly from the shipper on the continent, transport them to one of our terminals, and then to the final recipient," explains Bart Coucke, Head of Operations at CLdN IT Systems S.A, the structure responsible for the group's IT management, whose team is located in Luxembourg.



Facilitating the securing of an extensive network

Ensuring optimal logistic services requires relying on a robust and reliable IT infrastructure, particularly a network that guarantees secure information exchange with the internet.

"A few years ago, we had to replace the proxy servers, which were responsible for monitoring and securing exchanges with the internet," explains Bart Coucke. "We then turned to Telindus to see what solutions could meet our needs in this regard."

Telindus recommended that CLdN adopt a SASE (Secure Access Service Edge). This security concept had the advantage of guaranteeing secure exchanges, facilitating access management and monitoring, and improving protection for the company's users and digital assets, whether located at the terminals, on the ships, in the group's data center, or in the cloud. "Based on our partner's recommendation, we opted for a solution that consolidates all security services at a single cloud instance," comments Bart Coucke.

Consolidated and More Flexible Management

With this solution, CLdN has been able to consolidate the management of security for exchanges between its various sites and users. "During the health crisis, when solutions were previously hosted on-site or from our data center, we had to resort to cloud solutions. This required opening up our network. The implemented solution facilitated this opening, ensuring the security of connectivity extended to the public cloud," continues the IT manager.

One of the major advantages of the solution lies in increased flexibility in security management. "In the past, it was necessary to deploy one or two firewalls per site, and therefore as many devices that required significant effort in terms of maintenance and supervision," Bart Coucke continues. "The introduction of SASE has allowed us to simply install SD-WAN appliances, remotely configurable, greatly facilitating the management of these aspects."

With CLdN relying on this suite of solutions, it manages an extensive network spanning 21 remote sites.

An Integrated Suite of Security Services

The solution has consequently reduced the number of products needed to ensure network availability and secure exchanges. "It incorporates various security services, such as firewalls, traffic monitoring tools, and a Web Gateway. All these functionalities can be deployed and managed from a single console, accessible in the cloud," explains Bart Coucke. "The solution allows for deploying the same security configuration across all our sites, remotely." Everything is standardized, and integrating a new entity into the group is much easier. "In three days, we managed to integrate four new sites into the network. It was enough to connect each of them using an SD-WAN appliance. The same security policy is thus applied across the entire network," explains the manager.

Enhanced Security and Controlled Costs

For Bart Coucke, relying on a solution that evolves continuously allows CLdN to benefit from various functionalities regularly deployed at the solution level.

"By relying on the recommendations of Telindus, a longstanding partner of our company, we have succeeded in improving the management of our network, in a context of business growth, while reducing the number of products and technologies deployed. Necessary updates can be performed more easily, remotely, ensuring their limited impact on production. More flexible, more efficient, the implemented solution also addresses cost control issues. Maintenance costs have been significantly reduced," he concludes.

DISCOVER THEIR STORY



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BART COUCKE - Head of Operations