

Akzo Nobel

Network transformation for a global manufacturer



THE CHALLENGE

- Improve Internet security without adding hardware and complexity
- Facilitate migration to a hybrid network infrastructure
- Support migration to Office 365 Performance improvement for Internet traffic
- Cost reduction through reduction of traffic on MPLS network

SOLUTION EVALUATION

- Two cloud-based offerings were evaluated against security, network and business requirements.

THE ZSCALER DIFFERENCE

- Highly integrated platform including Next Generation Firewall
- Hybrid network enablement on the path towards Office 365 implementation
- Centralized management and reporting functionality with one integrated dashboard
- Protection for mobile users

AkzoNobel is a Dutch multinational and global market leader in the fields of decorative paints, performance coatings and specialty chemicals. Headquartered in Amsterdam with a corporate history reaching back to 1646, today the company has activities in more than 80 countries around the world and employs approximately 46,000 people. In order to secure employee Internet access and prepare for a modern, Internet-centric network infrastructure, AkzoNobel was looking for a cloud-based security solution.

THE CHALLENGE

AkzoNobel operates with a highly centralized company IT infrastructure used by hundreds of locations in 80 countries worldwide. The growing adoption of cloud-based solutions was contributing to increased Internet traffic and consequent congestion of its WAN infrastructure. A hub-and-spoke architecture forced all traffic to be backhauled to a single regional Internet gateway each for EMEA, the Americas and APAC.

This set-up faced serious capacity constraints and could not rationally support the expanding need for Internet bandwidth for cloud-based applications, as well as a pending Office 365 implementation. AkzoNobel's IT organization began to study a new hybrid network model that would increase the number of Internet "breakouts" and improve performance in accessing the web, while guaranteeing a safe internet experience.

Since AkzoNobel did not want to implement and manage additional network hardware, adding security appliances was not a solution. They challenged their service provider Orange Business Services (OBS) to propose a cloud-based solution that would meet all their security, performance and business requirements to support the migration of applications to the cloud.

THE SOLUTION

AkzoNobel was looking for a more flexible solution for outbound Internet access while providing optimal security for all staff worldwide. OBS proposed Zscaler's cloud-based Internet Security Platform, which offered all the required security functionality, including Web Security, Advanced Threat Protection, Next Generation Firewall and Secure Browsing. This highly integrated solution provides a streamlined migration path towards a hybrid WAN/Internet network model while adding security functionality at reduced total cost.

During product evaluation, Zscaler proved itself a viable and technically advanced solution with an easy-to-administer administration dashboard, facilitating the implementation of 25 additional Internet breakout points during 2016.

THE ZSCALER DIFFERENCE

Advanced and Highly Integrated Security

Zscaler's security suite provides extensive scanning functionality against modern malware threats including viruses, botnets and zero-day exploits. As quite a large part of the staff accesses the mobile network through tablets, smartphones and laptops, protection of this traffic was an important factor in AkzoNobel's decision to implement Zscaler. Since the company did not have DNS resolving for Internet services, they decided to use Zscaler's Intelligent routing solution in order to make Internet available on their desktops. AkzoNobel also became one of the first companies to use Zscaler's new, integrated Next Generation Firewall functionality for traffic scanning, extending security across all ports and protocols.

Optimized Network Performance

The cloud-based solution provides security with exceptionally low latency and requires no hardware or software to be maintained. When the additional Internet breakout points are implemented, Internet traffic no longer has to be backhauled to AkzoNobel's principal data centers for appliance-based security scanning; the company is saving considerable MPLS traffic. This rationalization combined with Zscaler's bandwidth control capability is essential to the pending Office 365 implementation.

Easy Administration

AkzoNobel considered the administration of its prior security configuration extremely burdensome due to the number of separate point solutions involved. With the move to Zscaler, one integrated administration portal has taken complexity out of administration. The whole set-up is very easy to understand and manage. "The dashboard is intuitive and our IT team was very quickly up to speed using it, with only minimal technical consultation by Zscaler," explains Edwin Wijnhoven, Service Delivery Manager at AkzoNobel. "This functionality will be an immense advantage when we have implemented 25 break-out points. We will be able to administer them with one portal and have to change a rule only once to deliver it to all locations."

👏 Zscaler is supporting the Information Management strategy of AkzoNobel by providing a secure foundation for our hybrid network infrastructure. 🗨️

— *Edwin Wijnhoven, Service Delivery Manager, Akzo Nobel*

About Zscaler

Zscaler is revolutionizing Internet security with the industry's first Security as a Service platform. As the most innovative firm in the \$35 billion security market, Zscaler is used by more than 5,000 leading organizations, including 50 of the Fortune 500. Zscaler ensures that more than 15 million users worldwide are protected against cyberattacks and data breaches, while staying fully compliant with corporate and regulatory policies.

Zscaler is a Gartner Magic Quadrant leader for Secure Web Gateways and delivers a safe and productive Internet experience for every user, from any device and from any location—100% in the cloud. With its multi-tenant, distributed cloud security platform, Zscaler effectively moves security into the Internet backbone, operating in more than 100 data centers around the world and enabling organizations to fully leverage the promise of cloud and mobile computing with unparalleled and uncompromising protection and performance. Zscaler delivers unified, carrier-grade Internet security, next-generation firewall, web security, sandboxing/advanced persistent threat (APT) protection, data loss prevention, SSL inspection, traffic shaping, policy management, and threat intelligence—all without the need for on-premises hardware, appliances, or software. To learn more, visit us at www.zscaler.com.






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