

Mews Partners advances cybersecurity protection and efficiency

International management consulting firm improves cybersecurity protection and streamlines security administration



Mews Partners is an independent management consulting firm of 160 consultants with an annual turnover of 35 million euros. The firm provides operational strategy consulting to clients across various industries, including retail, services, and financial services. With a focus on pragmatism and excellence, Mews Partners operates offices in Paris, Toulouse, Munich, Hamburg, Montreal and Sydney.

THE CHALLENGE

It's that sinking feeling when your flight takes off and you realize you forgot something at the airport. If it was your laptop, the data on your hard drive often is the bigger worry than the physical equipment. Mews Partners, a management consulting firm with employees who often travel to client sites, estimates one of the primary data security risks is lost or stolen laptops. To protect against data loss, the company sought to find a more efficient, reliable way to manage encryption keys. In addition, as cyberthreats grew more sophisticated and Mews Partners continued to grow, the firm needed a higher degree of protection.

A long-time satisfied Bitdefender customer, Mews Partners determined upgrading to Bitdefender GravityZone Business Security Premium with Full-Disk Encryption would address both challenges well. Mathieu Barré, IT Manager, Mews Partners, says, "We have always appreciated how easy it is to set up and maintain GravityZone from a central console. Upgrading to GravityZone Business Security Premium was the perfect choice to improve endpoint protection with the same streamlined management. Adding Full-Disk Encryption was an opportunity to increase reliability and efficiency of managing laptop encryption through automation."

THE SOLUTION

Mews Partners depends on Bitdefender GravityZone to provide anti-malware, firewall protection, and content control for 220 Microsoft Windows workstations, VMware ESXi virtual servers, and VMware vSphere virtual machines. The company uses GravityZone Sandbox Analyzer, an endpoint-integrated sandbox to analyze suspicious files, detonate payloads, and report malicious intent to administrators. Mews Partners also depends on GravityZone Full-Disk Encryption to automate management of BitLocker encryption keys.

Applications at Mews Partners protected by GravityZone include Everwin enterprise resource planning (ERP), Sage financial management, Sage pay solution, Microsoft Office 365, Microsoft Active Directory services, Microsoft shared data services, and Microsoft shared printer services.

Industry

Consulting

Headquarters

Toulouse, France

Employees

160 (IT staff, 2)

Results

- Keeps environment safe from security breaches
- Streamlines laptop encryption
- Avoids recurring external security services costs
- Only eight hours per week spent on security administration

THE RESULTS

Since using Bitdefender, Mews Partners has avoided for the moment any security breaches. With a small IT team, Barré also values GravityZone's ease of use and advanced automation. "Because GravityZone is so easy to use, we avoid the cost of purchasing external services to set up, configure and manage a security solution—something that would cost between 1,500 and 3,000 euros annually," explains Barré. "With only two people in IT, we're busy supporting 160 employees working across Europe and North America. GravityZone gives us more time to work on other projects to help grow the business."

In fact, Barré estimates the team spends eight hours on security administration on average per week. The volume of security-related trouble tickets also is light, with the team logging approximately 10 per month. Bitdefender's lightweight design requires minimal use of computing resources, avoiding any performance slowdowns of workstations or servers.

Bitdefender GravityZone Full-Disk Encryption also has contributed to increased security. If a laptop is lost or stolen, encryption prevents access to the contents of the hard drive. In addition, IT uses the encryption key to restore the laptop's data to a new device.

Barré notes, "With Full-Disk Encryption, it's easy to manage the BitLocker encryption keys from the GravityZone console. With people working from home due to COVID-19, it's useful that we can manage the blocking and unblocking of encrypted devices remotely. GravityZone provides an important layer of protection and security for our clients' proprietary data and intellectual property stored on our workstations."

"We like that we can manage the security layer and laptop encryption with the fully integrated GravityZone solution," Barré adds.

As a partner, Bitdefender has shined according to Barré: "We have been impressed with the technical knowledge of the Bitdefender sales and customer support teams. We also appreciate we can call on people who are fluent in French. If we ever have a question or issue, Bitdefender is quick to provide a meaningful response."

"Because GravityZone is so easy to use, we avoid the cost of purchasing external services to set up, configure and manage a security solution—something that would cost between 1,500 and 3,000 euros annually.."

Mathieu Barré, IT Manager, Mews Partners

Bitdefender Footprint

- GravityZone Business Security Premium
- GravityZone Full-Disk Encryption

IT Environment

- Everwin
- Microsoft Active Directory
- Microsoft Office 365
- Sage financial management
- Sage pay solution
- VMware ESXi
- VMware vSphere

Operating Systems

- Linux
- Microsoft Windows