ManageEngine Firewall Analyzer helps Navellier Associates Meet FINRA, SEC, and SOX IT Audit Regulations

OVERVIEW

Organization

Navellier & Associates Inc

Industry

Investment Advisory

Critical Requirements

- Meet IT Security Audits relevant to financial services domain

- Real-time monitoring of firewall traffic

- Detailed VPN reports with metrics for senior management

Solution

ManageEngine Firewall Analyzer

Results

- Helps them meet FINRA, SEC, and SOX IT Audits

- Provides real-time firewall traffic monitoring with instant alerts for malicious traffic

- VPN usage reports covering top users, top hosts, bandwidth usage, protocols used, etc.

Company Information

Navellier & Associates Inc (http://navellier.com) is a financial investment advisory firm headquartered in Reno, Nevada. The firm manages 6,175 accounts totaling an estimated $2.76 Billion of assets under management. Navellier manages a variety of portfolios for institutional clients and also helps thousands of individual investors achieve their financial goals. Navellier & Associates employs 39 full-time employees including 10 investment professionals.

Challenges

Bob Fuller, Director of Information Technologies, is solely responsible for the IT operations at Navellier & Associates. As an investment advisory firm, which is into trading, they have to strictly adhere to the IT Audit regulations laid down by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX) which mandates Navellier to conduct regular audits of their network infrastructure.

"We have traders who access our network through VPN and we wanted to have complete visibility of who was accessing our VPN at any given time. Since we trade we are under FINRA and SEC regulation which mandates us to audit and store all our firewall logging data," says Bob Fuller, Director of Information Technologies, Navellier & Associates Inc.

Navellier had a log server capturing the raw logs and used home-grown scripts to parse these raw logs and extract meaningful insights, but found it time consuming and next to impossible to quickly extract the kind of real-time information that could help them mitigate threats and stay compliant to audit regulations.

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Bob Fuller,
Director of Information Technologies,
Navellier & Associates Inc.

A third-party audit of their firewalls, rules, retention policy and reporting pointed out to certain deficiencies in their firewall logging and real-time monitoring of their firewalls.

They immediately started looking for a solution that could provide complete visibility into their firewall traffic so that they are alerted in real-time in case of a security breach. And more importantly help them meet FINRA, SEC, and SOX compliance requirements.

Solution

Navellier evaluated several free and commercial solutions, but most of them didn't match up to their critical requirements and a few that had the features that Navellier was looking for were obnoxiously priced. His search for firewall security management software finally led him to Firewall Analyzer from ManageEngine, which met all their critical requirements and was also priced right.

"We selected Firewall Analyzer because it was easier to setup than all other products we evaluated, it had the best management and graphical user interface, and provided us detailed firewall reports to meet FINRA, SEC, and SOX IT audit requirements" says Bob.

Firewall Analyzer deployment at Navellier was pretty quick and with a helpful ManageEngine tech support (fwanalyzer-support@manageengine.com) Bob got it configured for real-time monitoring and instant threat notification within minutes! In Bob's own words "I look at Firewall Analyzer as an automated tool which helps me in my day-to-day management of my IT environment. I depend on it!"

Coming to the reporting section of the product, Firewall Analyzer provides hundreds and hundreds of built-in reports which deals with real-time network traffic trends, employee internet monitoring, bandwidth utilization, virus/attack signatures, etc. Navellier Associates has scheduled Monthly VPN Usage Reports to automatically delivered (emailed) to its network team, which will help them analyze on the number of users who have logged into their network, the time they spent in VPN, resources accessed, etc. This report provides their COO with metrics for tracking their VPN user activities.

"I am looking forward to the upcoming (third-party) independent IT Security audit of our network and I am feeling pretty confident that this audit will be substantially better than the previous one, since I have got Firewall Analyzer helping me with real-time monitoring of my network perimeter devices." says Bob Fuller

About ManageEngine Firewall Analyzer

ManageEngine Firewall Analyzer is an agent-less Log Analytics and Configuration Management Software for network security devices. More than 3000 customers worldwide are using Firewall Analyzer for end-point security monitoring & analysis, change management, employee internet monitoring, bandwidth monitoring, capacity planning, policy enforcement, security & compliance audit reporting. Firewall Analyzer is vendor-agnostic and supports almost all open source and commercial network firewalls, IDS/IPS, VPNs, Proxies and related security devices. For more information on ManageEngine Firewall Analyzer, please visit http://www.fwanalyzer.com/.

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About ManageEngine

ManageEngine is the leading provider of cost-effective enterprise IT management software and the only one making the 90-10 promise - to provide 90 percent of the capabilities offered by the Big 4 at just 10 percent of the price. More than 50,000 organizations in 200 countries, from different verticals, industries and sizes use ManageEngine to take care of their IT management needs cost effectively. ManageEngine is a division of Zoho Corp.

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