



ALTRAN UNDERTAKES UNIFICATION OF SUBSIDIARIES AND STANDARDS

Altran, a European leader in innovation consulting, was founded in 1982. Altran engages with its customers by offering expertise in three complementary fields: Technology and innovation consulting; Organization and information systems consulting; and, Strategy and management consulting. In 2006, Altran's sales were 1,495.5 million Euros. It has more than 17,000 employees located around the globe in over 20 countries.



With Sebastien Truttet

Group IS Department,
Infrastructures Manager
Altran (France)



ALTRAN UNIFIES AROUND STANDARDS

The Altran Group is made up of roughly 100 companies, created and acquired over the 25 years since its foundation. They all share the same philosophy, but bringing them together IT-wise has been a major project since 2005. The project creates not only logistics but security challenges since each subsidiary has its own internal organization, its own processes, its own methods, its own IT, its own accounting, its own clients, and its own consultants. The Information Systems Department is entirely in line with the strategy of the group to bring the organization "from patchwork to network." Sebastien Truttet, who has been with Altran for nine years stated, "This means a central IT organization, infrastructure and network, not only because it makes sense economically and from a business point of view, but it also enables us to afford the tools worthy of a leading global group like Altran."

NETASQ's intrusion prevention solution (IPS) was adopted by Altran in 1998. At that time, Altran was particularly interested in finding a European technology as it was engaged in work for national defense.

"Initially", said Truttet, "we implemented NETASQ's Unified Threat Management appliances as a second security barrier behind the firewalls of another vendor. We had full confidence in NETASQ's solution when it came time to upgrade, so we decided to do away with the other vendor's firewalls entirely, and use NETASQ's appliances as our unique security barrier."

Altran uses NETASQ's appliances to filter the internal network and users' access to the Internet. In the future, they will also be used to filter the traffic between the different datacenters in Europe.

EACH NETASQ APPLIANCE SERVES ITS FUNCTION TOWARDS UNIFIED THREAT MANAGEMENT

Altran rents dedicated space in data centers where activity poles are located all over Europe. The idea is to have one data center per country or per group of countries, depending on the size. Altran's internal information systems are hosted and managed in the data centers. In certain countries, client platforms are also hosted and managed in Altran's data centers.

NETASQ's Intrusion Prevention Solutions have four different major usages within Altran's network. One is used for internet protection, one is used

APPLIANCES

- 4 x F800 (redundant)
- 1 x F1000 (redundant)
- 3 x F200

to filter access to the servers, another is used to filter the flows coming from users connected on the network, and

another is used to regulate the flows between the data centers. Since the firewalls serve different roles, not all features are activated on each. "It's great to have a product that offers so many features because we have been able to split the functionality across the appliances. For a given role, for example, HTTP conformity analysis, we can implement it easily on the firewall of our

choice according to what we want to filter, regulate or control. This simplifies the management of the firewalls enormously since we only need to configure one element in one location for it to work," according to Truttet.

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Sebastien Truttet



There are nearly 30 sites in France that will use the same infrastructure and the same four UTM appliances. This equates to a significant cost savings. "If we had gone with another UTM vendor, I believe we would have had to deploy firewalls to each site. Whereas to manage all security for 8000 users located at 30 different sites, we only need four appliances," stated Truttet.

“ *It's very practical to have access to all the features through a single central interface. The tool is quite intuitive and it can be used by non-experts, which is exactly what we were looking for.* **”**

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In 2006, this centralized infrastructure was deployed for Paris and the surrounding areas. In 2007, it will be implemented for the entire country, and in 2008, the objective is to deploy the new infrastructure for the rest of Europe.

CENTRALIZED INFRASTRUCTURE AND CENTRALIZED FIREWALL MANAGEMENT

Altran uses NETASQ's Firewall Manager and Global Admin to manage firewall security. "We found NETASQ's firewall security management tools to be far better than those of their competitors. NETASQ's tool is well adapted to our organization. Every day we integrate new users as we are currently deploying the new infrastructure. There are new business

or web applications to integrate which require modifications to the firewalls. It's very practical to have access to all

the features through a single central interface. The tool is quite intuitive and it can be used by non-experts, which is exactly what we were looking for," stated Truttet.

Altran does not have to pay much attention to the logs or alarms. "We trust the firewalls and we

have sufficient experience with NETASQ's solutions," Truttet continued. "We do not need extreme diligence when it comes to attacks. We have some probes on the network that gather information and enable us to have the required level of control."

CLIENT BENEFITS

- Configuration of different functions for each appliance results in substantial cost savings
- Centralized firewall management tools are easy to use and efficient
- Standard European technology is used throughout
- A secure yet accessible network is assured

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ABOUT NETASQ

NETASQ was established in 1998 and is the leading European vendor of unified security solutions for businesses of all sizes: SMEs-SMIs, large enterprises and government bodies. The company designs and markets Unified Threat Management (UTM) appliances based on its own ASQ (Active Security Qualification), a unique real-time intrusion prevention technology, with network and application firewall features, IPSec and SSL VPN, content filtering, anti-virus, anti-spam, anti-spyware, and secure VoIP. Living up to its reputation as a technological innovator, NETASQ thus provides all the essential security functions, built into a single appliance. Its ASQ technology is embedded by default in all products, guaranteeing clients optimum protection through the combination of several innovative analyses. ASQ tangibly delivers on the promise of zero-day protection security.