



Security. Visibility. Governance.

Atos Worldline Case Study



“AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer has made a measurable impact on our firewall management which is no small task. With such a large infrastructure and globally distributed workforce, centralized tracking and management of changes to our security policies is vital to the integrity of our network and necessary controls for our security and networking departments. AlgoSec affords us realizing operational efficiencies in global security policy management and compliance”

said Hugo Van der Veeken, Atos Worldline SA/NV security department head.

Atos Worldline Uses AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer® (AFA) to Improve Operations, Reduce Risk and Cut Costs

The Challenge: Efficient Network Security Change Lifecycle

Atos Worldline SA/NV is a subsidiary of Atos Origin, an international information technology services company. Atos Origin's business is turning client vision into results through the application of consulting, systems integration and managed operations. It employs 50,000 people in 40 countries.

Atos Worldline SA/NV has a multi-vendor multi-firewall infrastructure with clusters and standalone Check Point and Cisco firewalls. As Atos Worldline processed hundreds of change requests firewall policies became larger and more complex with obsolete, invalid and duplicated rules and objects remaining in the firewalls. Maintaining and operating the firewalls with scores of objects and complex rule bases was a time consuming and manual process. These redundant rules and objects injected clutter into their network, impacting manageability, slowing performance, and introducing unnecessary security risks.

In addition, Atos Worldline discovered many of the rule changes being implemented were unnecessary as the policy was already allowing the desired function and Atos Worldline was looking for a way to prevent the introduction of such rules in the future. Atos Worldline also wanted to maintain detailed records of all firewall configuration changes and required a way to track, monitor and verify whether changes were correctly implemented. Atos Worldline had no automated system that allowed them to review and audit all changes and analyze their effect on the network.

Atos Worldline SA/NV wanted a solution that would allow them to easily oversee the network security change lifecycle to optimize operations management while ensuring compliance with corporate security policy and regulatory requirements.



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Atos Worldline:

Atos Worldline employs 4,000 people and is a subsidiary of Atos Origin, an international company specializing in information technology and services. Atos Worldline is a major European player in the processing of large-volume electronic transactions, specializing in electronic payment services, CRM and eServices (Internet, voice and mobile services). Guided by technological innovation, Atos Worldline develops ways of optimising data handling and the integration of processes.

AlgoSec:

AlgoSec is the leading provider of Firewall Operations and Security Risk Management solutions. AlgoSec's exclusive technology is optimized for enterprises, MSPs, auditors and consultants to quantifiably increase their operational effectiveness. More than 300 leading organizations selected AlgoSec's products - - AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer and FireFlow™ -- to intelligently automate what was traditionally manual, time and labor intensive tasks surrounding firewall, router and VPN management. This translates to significant cost savings and greater output for organizations without increasing headcount.

The Solution: AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer

The Atos Worldline SA/NV security department selected the AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer to provide comprehensive, automated firewall operations and risk management. AFA's unified graphical interface allows key network security team members to visualize the firewall policy, understand the impact of proposed changes and take appropriate action.

AFA automatically analyzes every change for its effect on the network, allowing Atos Worldline SA/NV to practice prevention instead of crisis management. AFA's exclusive ability to simulate the firewall topology provides unprecedented information, allowing Atos Worldline SA/NV to instantly know which rules and objects are obsolete, invalid and duplicated and where potential security holes exist. With this information, Atos Worldline SA/NV successfully cleaned up their rule base leading to improved manageability, increased performance and reduced complexity and subsequently reduced risk.

In addition, AFA's unique querying capabilities have been enabling Atos Worldline SA/NV to avoid introducing unnecessary and potentially risky changes. AFA allows Atos Worldline SA/NV to query across multiple platforms to understand if an existing rule negates the need for a change. If a change is required AFA identifies what policies need to be modified and how. To complete the cycle, after a change is implemented AFA then enables Atos Worldline to verify that it was configured correctly and in accordance with corporate security policy. AFA's "what if" analyses also allow Atos Worldline to determine the operational and security impact of a potential change on the network before making it live.

AFA's firewall change management also addressed Atos Worldline SA/NV's objective to maintain end-to-end accountability which they confirm using AFA for periodic audits. It also provides them with comprehensive real-time tracking and automated alerting to key team members on executed changes.

"We were one of the early adopters of the AlgoSec solution. We evaluated several solutions and AlgoSec was selected for its powerful depth of analysis, solid architecture based on their CTO, Dr. Avishai Wool's research and its ease of use. It easily and quickly provided Atos Worldline with the ability to understand, track and verify changes to our firewall infrastructure and refine the necessary procedures between the networking and security departments in the scope of PCI and SAS70 compliance," said Massoud Kamran Security Consultant at Atos Worldline Belgium.



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Benefits:

- ⇒ Increased network security
- ⇒ Proactive security enforcement
- ⇒ Improved operations management
- ⇒ Ensured change management
- ⇒ Enhanced firewall performance
- ⇒ Ensured corporate and regulatory compliance
- ⇒ Better IT Governance
- ⇒ Automation of previously manual tasks
- ⇒ Powerful multi-vendor querying
- ⇒ Automated audit trail
- ⇒ Intuitive graphical interface

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The Benefits: Improved Operations, Reduced Risk and Cost Savings

With the AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer Atos Worldline has been able to intelligently automate what until now had been manual, labor and time intensive tasks. Atos Worldline has optimized their infrastructure utilization enhancing performance and bolstered their network security while enforcing corporate policies to provide improved IT Governance.

The ability to determine the necessity of changes and their potential security implications have streamlined Atos Worldline's network, saving them time, and effort which translates into reduced costs. It also has increased productivity by boosting IT personnel output with adding headcount.

"Before using the AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer we inevitably made rule changes without a tool to review and monitor the result of our changes. AlgoSec Firewall Analyzer's automated and intelligent analysis lets us know the implications of a change and avoid potential risks which save us time, effort and money," said Peter Johannes head of Security and Architecture Policy at Atos Worldline Belgium.

"In addition, the change management benefits created by the AFA stretch beyond the security realm and afford us with previously unrealized operational efficiencies in global security policy management and compliance. And as a service company, optimized internal operations translate directly to our clients by allowing Atos Worldline to focus wholly on their needs," Johannes added.

AFA's tracking, alerting and auditing capabilities also provide Atos Worldline with the assurances they need that they are adhering to corporate and regulatory standards.



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