

USAMERIBANK SELECTS PROOFPOINT FOR SUPERIOR EMAIL SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE

EASE OF USE AND ON-DEMAND SUPPORT MAXIMIZE SECURITY TEAM RESOURCES



THE CHALLENGE

- Protect customers sensitive information
- Encrypt email containing PII and PCI
- Eliminate phishing and malicious messages
- Consolidate email security vendors for increased ease of use and management

THE SOLUTION

- Proofpoint Essentials Advanced Package

THE RESULTS

- Secured communication of sensitive information
- Stopped an average of over 500 malicious messages a day
- Seamless implementation, superior support and excellent ease of use

THE ORGANIZATION

As a leading independent bank serving Florida and Alabama, USAmeriBank is highly capitalized to ensure its financial stability and to maintain the flexibility to offer solutions that go beyond the capabilities of rigid regional or national companies. USAmeriBank provides customers with technologies and tools that make getting information and completing transactions easy and secure.

THE CHALLENGE

Like other small and medium businesses (SMBs), USAmeriBank needed an enterprise-class security solution that's effective against advanced attacks and easy to manage. Instead of worrying about security issues, the bank wants to focus on core business functions.

As the bank's previous email security solution's end of life approached, USAmeriBank began looking for a vendor that would protect it from advanced email attacks and help it comply with stringent banking and financial services rules. With a one-man IT security team, managing multiple vendors and interfaces for the bank's email needs was a headache. The bank was looking for a single solution to manage all of its email security. It needed a solution that could block malicious inbound messages and send confidential outbound email securely. After looking at the competition, Proofpoint became the obvious choice.

"Proofpoint was a front runner because of their commitment to security and their customers," said Andy Groll, security analyst at USAmeriBank. "Managing email filtering from one vendor and email encryption from another was cumbersome, so we needed a one-stop shop for all of our email needs. That's exactly what we got with Proofpoint."

THE SOLUTION

Guarding against inbound attacks

USAmeriBank was seeing an average of 500–600 unwanted email incidents per day. These included malware, spam, bulk, phishing, and other malicious messages. It needed to effectively protect users from the volume of different threats that were being seen.

It chose Proofpoint Essentials. The solution looks out for SMBs with a cloud-based, enterprise-class security. It leverages the same proven back-end technology that protects more than half of Fortune 100 companies.

Proofpoint Essentials detects, contains and blocks malicious URLs and attachments that targeting the banks executives and employees.

"Proofpoint protects us from malicious emails that are coming in—it just works. We really like the URL Defense feature, which provides an additional layer of protection should a user click on a malicious link within an email. Proofpoint blocks the users access to the website and alerts them that it is not safe," Groll said.

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Andy Groll, security analyst,
USAmeriBank

Secure communication

The bank handles sensitive and confidential customer information daily as part of its business. With Proofpoint Essentials Advanced package, end users can either send encrypted email by using the plug-in feature in Outlook or by typing in a designated word in the subject line of an email. And if an end user forgets to encrypt sensitive information, the Proofpoint data-loss protection (DLP) engine scans the email and takes action based on the policies set by the bank.

Essentials Advanced uses smart identifiers and pre-defined dictionaries to spot sensitive data. Once defined, encryption policies for compliance and content security are applied automatically, consistently, and accurately—ending the risk of user error.

“Some of our users aren’t as aware as others,” Groll said. “Having policy-based encryption is very important to us. Proofpoint provides our users peace of mind. If they are sending out sensitive information and forget to use the subject line encryption feature, Proofpoint sends them a message and alerts them that the message was sent encrypted. Our users don’t have to worry, it’s taken care of automatically based on policies and receives feedback right away.”

THE RESULTS

Groll found the solution easy to deploy and manage. The administrative console is clean and intuitive. He got up and running in minutes, and became self-sufficient with minimal guidance from the Proofpoint Essentials support team. He gets ongoing training options and resources available when needed.

Like many organizations today, USAmeriBank was looking to move from its Exchange 2010 deployment. It planned to migrate to Microsoft 365 to take advantage of the benefits of cloud-enabled collaboration. With Proofpoint, the move from Exchange on-premise to Office 365 was a simple. By simply changing over its MX record, the bank routed inbound mail through Proofpoint Essentials then on to 365.

“Proofpoint provided everything I needed for a seamless migration with step-by-step instructions,” Groll said. “Support has always been very responsive—my tickets get replies immediately, and the few times I have called support I was able to get help right away. The support representatives escalate any issues and things get resolved quickly. Proofpoint has a great reputation and it lives up to it.”

LEARN MORE

For more information, visit proofpoint.com/essentials.

ABOUT PROOFPOINT

Proofpoint, Inc. (NASDAQ:PFPT), a next-generation cybersecurity company, enables organizations to protect the way their people work today from advanced threats and compliance risks. Proofpoint helps cybersecurity professionals protect their users from the advanced attacks that target them (via email, mobile apps, and social media), protect the critical information people create, and equip their teams with the right intelligence and tools to respond quickly when things go wrong. Leading organizations of all sizes, including over 50 percent of the Fortune 100, rely on Proofpoint solutions, which are built for today’s mobile and social-enabled IT environments and leverage both the power of the cloud and a big-data-driven analytics platform to combat modern advanced threats.

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