



Fast configuration and deployment were decisive factors for the switch to hardware-based encryption from Wave.

Securitas Deutschland, a provider of security services, relies on Wave's EMBASSY® software and self-encrypting drives to protect sensitive customer and business data.

Branch of Industry

Securitas is Germany's largest provider of specialized security solutions in the private security industry.

The Product

Securitas uses Wave's EMBASSY® Remote Administration Server (ERAS) for centralized administration of self-encrypting drives (SEDs), including management of users, logon credentials and access rights to the drives.

Self-encrypting drives perform encryption in the drive controller itself, meaning encryption takes place independent of a laptop's computing power and operating system. This offers added protection against hackers and counteracts the system performance issues often associated with software-only encryption solutions.

ERAS provides comprehensive remote management of SEDs, including secure audit logs that enable companies to conform to internal company policies and to comply with international data privacy and data security regulations such as ISO/IEC 27002.

Summary of Advantages

- Unlike providers that offer software-only security solutions, Wave Systems uses a hardware-based approach to strengthen data security and ease deployment.
- The advantages of the solution from Wave Systems were immediately recognizable for Securitas, which found that it could save time in both the configuration and the deployment of the encryption. This reduced costs and simultaneously freed other resources for additional administrative tasks.
- Project manager Feim Sulja is satisfied:

"Our expectations with regard to the products from Wave Systems were adequately fulfilled. EMBASSY® software offers many advantages for our employees and for our company as a whole. And the encryption works very stably, so we receive only a few helpdesk queries."

The Customer

With 310,000 coworkers in 53 countries, Securitas is a globally active provider of security services. From a broad spectrum of specialized security services, technological components, consulting and investigative services, Securitas develops offers that are custom-tailored to meet each customer's needs and to provide effective security solutions.

Securitas is Germany's largest provider of security services and is Germany's only internationally active corporate group in this branch of industry. Securitas Deutschland operates 120 subsidiaries in Germany, divided into three business areas: Specialized Security Services, Mobile Services, and Alert Services. Securitas has been on the German market since 1996.

The increasing number of hacker attacks and newly arising security gaps has created a growing need for reliable and transparent security solutions in all industries. Securitas Deutschland highly prioritizes the security of its customer and partner data, and therefore places great importance on effective security strategies. Securitas Deutschland constantly seeks new technologies that can reliably and comprehensively ensure the protection of information.

The Challenge

The laptops used by Securitas Deutschland's staff contain sensitive business data which must be protected against external access. The company had deployed a software-based encryption solution in Germany until a few years ago, but this method was laborious to administer, and delivered only limited performance. The IT department at Securitas Deutschland was accordingly looking for a security solution that would be transparent, easy to administer, and significantly minimize security risks.

The Solution

Based on a recommendation from Dell Inc., whose products Securitas has deployed for many years, the security services provider decided to deploy the solution from Wave Systems in February 2008 (the deployment is now in its eighth year). These collaborations enable the computer manufacturer to provide its customers with complete data security solutions. Employees of Securitas Deutschland use laptops from Dell's Latitude series with Seagate's SEDs, managed by the ERAS software from Wave Systems.

The Results

Hardware-based security solutions from Wave Systems provide Securitas Deutschland with numerous advantages. These include simple installation and administration, especially compared to software-based solutions for the encryption of hard drives. The most important advantage is that Wave's EMBASSY® software ensures the security of data on the laptops of the staff of Securitas Deutschland. The drive hardware protects the encryption key and makes the key invulnerable to malware and rootkits. Wave's software provides drive commissioning, password reset, and secure end-of-life processing for SEDs. Only authorized users are granted access to the protected data. The security solutions from Wave Systems ensure that Securitas Deutschland's data is protected from undesired external access at all times. This is precisely the goal that Securitas Deutschland wanted to achieve—and that's why Securitas Deutschland relies on Wave's solution.