

The Football Pools Spends Only One Hour per Week to Prove ISO/IEC 27001 Compliance



Customer
The Football Pools

Industry
Entertainment

Website
www.footballpools.com

Netwrix Auditor Application
Netwrix Auditor for SQL Server

Customer Profile

For over 90 years, The Football Pools has provided its customers with a chance to win big cash prizes for playing pool games based on the outcome of football matches. The Football Pools has paid out over £3.2 billion to winners and donated over £1.3 billion to sports, arts and other good causes. Behind the scenes, the company's investments in technology have driven modernization of the business, enabling better cross-sell opportunities and a cheaper, more agile operating model.

THE CHALLENGE

The company needed to evidence to auditors that all changes and access to SQL databases are monitored according to the requirements of the UK Gambling Commission, which are based on ISO/IEC 27001 standard. The Football Pools has a remote team of database administrators (DBAs) working from different locations: the USA, India, Sweden and Poland. The IT team in the head office in Liverpool had limited visibility into what those DBAs were doing across the company's SQL databases. During the last compliance audit, the auditors required that the company track privileged user activity, including access and changes to SQL databases. If The Football Pools failed to meet this requirement, The Gambling Commission could use its regulatory powers to levy fines or even revoke the company's license.

NETWRIX SOLUTION

IT Infrastructure Manager Paul Edwards is responsible for aligning the company's existing IT processes with compliance requirements. He selected Netwrix Auditor because the platform provided out-of-the-box compliance reports that help him meet ISO/IEC 27001 requirements related to SQL database monitoring.

Getting reports in one click. Mr. Edwards must provide annual reports that prove the company is able to prevent inappropriate access to critical data. Netwrix Auditor provides compliance reports mapped directly to PCI DSS and ISO/IEC 27001 compliance standards, including the required detailed information about changes to SQL Server permissions.

Staying compliant every day. Mr. Edwards uses the Interactive Search feature to browse through changes made to databases and server configurations to ensure there was no unauthorized activity that could result in compromised data. "It takes me only one hour per week to run and review all the reports to make sure there is no malicious activity on our SQL servers. I can search what's happening across a certain server or what developers do in certain tables. This simplifies troubleshooting because now I can determine mistakes faster."

Recording of user activity. Because so many DBAs are logging into SQL servers remotely, Mr. Edwards chooses to video record every session. Video recording delivers full visibility, even if no logs are produced, and also helps with investigations of mistakes that affect database availability. Moreover, reminding DBAs that their sessions are being recorded increases their sense of responsibility for the work that they perform.

KEY BENEFITS

- Proof of compliance with ISO/IEC 27001
- Less time and effort required to pass audit checks
- Reduced risk of data loss and downtime
- Video recording of every remote DBA session

[Learn more about Netwrix Auditor](#)

To successfully pass security audits, we need to ensure that SQL databases are secured and only authorized users can access and modify them. Netwrix Auditor helps us to enable continuous compliance and provide necessary proof to auditors. It takes me only one hour per week – 8 times less than before – to make sure there is no malicious activity on our SQL servers. But the peace of mind that I get from Netwrix Auditor is simply impossible to measure.

Paul Edwards,
IT Infrastructure Manager,
The Football Pools