THALES

SafeNet Trusted Access Secures Physician Access

A longtime SafeWord customer, Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis (ASZ) hospital system in the Netherlands relies on Thales (formerly Gemalto) authentication to secure physician access to sensitive hospital resources. Instead of renewing their SafeWord contract, they upgraded to Thales's cloud based SafeNet Trusted Access (formerly SAS Cloud) - reducing cost, simplifying management, and enhancing functionality.

The Organization

Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis (ASZ) treats more than 500,000 patients every year at its main hospital and system of outpatient clinics. With more than 4,000 staff members, the hospital has taken great effort to ensure physicians and caretakers have access to relevant medical documentation, while also ensuring the security and privacy of patient information.

The Business Need

To enable physicians and caregivers to access medical information in real time – regardless of whether or not they are in the hospital building – the IT team at ASZ created a secure Citrix environment. Doctors and administrators can access the hospital's intranet, specialized healthcare applications for dictating notes and reviewing imaging, as well as Microsoft Office and Outlook. For doctors traveling or "on call," they're able to stay in contact with in-hospital care providers and provide treatment guidance without being in the building.

Challenge

Several years ago, Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis hospital system chose SafeWord tokens to protect access to its Citrix environment, including sensitive patient information. With the end of their SafeWord contract quickly approaching, the Dutch hospital system sought a solution that would provide optimal value for money, as well as easy deployment and day-to-day management.

Solution

When it came time to renew their SafeWord subscription, the hospital instead chose to upgrade to Thales SafeNet Trusted Access, which delivers fully automated authentication from the cloud.

Benefit

SafeNet Trusted Access fulfills all the requirements of the older SafeWord solution, while offering reduced costs and lower management overhead thanks to as-a-service delivery, automated workflows, and enhanced features.



In order to protect user access to this private data and comply with regulations regarding patient privacy, the Citrix environment required strong authentication. With the help of their trusted advisor, Square One Solutions, ASZ chose to implement SafeWord, an easy-to-use One Time Password (OTP) token that seamlessly integrates with Citrix Access Gateway and NetScaler.

In the years since ASZ implemented SafeWord, Thales has developed more advanced authentication solutions. Therefore, ASZ decided to explore SafeNet Trusted Access. What they found was the newer solution not only met their requirements, but provided enhanced features, simpler management, and decreased costs.



The Solution

ASZ, a long time Thales customer chose SafeNet Trusted Access, which delivers fully automated authentication from the cloud with flexible token options tailored to the unique needs of organizations. The solution supports a variety of hardware, software, mobile and tokenless form factors, while simplifying management with automated workflows and simple integration with directories and applications, including Microsoft Active Directory and Citrix NetScaler. While the reduced cost and ease of management provided motivation to upgrade to SafeNet Trusted Access, the Head of the IT Unit was concerned that a cloud-based solution may compromise patient privacy.

"I'm not a fan of cloud-based solutions from a privacy standpoint, and I was worried it may interfere with compliance initiatives," explained Kevin Boes, Head of Information and Communications Technology Management Unit at Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis. "We involved one of the hospital's information security officers to evaluate the solution and advise us on whether or not Gemalto's solution would meet our needs. His evaluation, combined with SafeNet Authentication Service's ISO 27001 certification, convinced us that even though it is a cloud-based solution, our patient's data remains secure, and the hospital is still in compliance with healthcare regulations."

Designed to meet the migration requirements of large enterprises with complex IT environments, Thales's migration agent allows organizations to take advantage of the improved security and reduced cost of SafeNet Trusted Access while preserving current token investments. This ensured there was no service disruption during ASZ's migration process.

- SafeWord was good enough for our needs, but we evaluated SafeNet Authentication Service and found it met all our requirements and was less expensive! We were already a happy customer, and we're even happier now."
- Kevin Boes, Head of Information and Communications Technology Management Unit at Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis

The Benefits

In addition to meeting ASZ's requirements for security, privacy and compliance, SafeNet Trusted Access provides additional benefits and features not available in other, older solutions like SafeWord. For example, cloud-based delivery removes the need for additional hardware and maintenance overhead, and enabled ASZ to keep their current infrastructure, while deploying a new authentication solution quickly.

Concurrently, ASZ has been leveraging Thales's SafeNet MobilePASS family of one-time password (OTP) software authentication solutions to a greater extent than they had with SafeWord. SafeNet MobilePASS combines the security of proven two-factor strong authentication with the convenience, simplicity, and ease of use of OTPs generated on personal mobile devices or PCs. "MobilePASS is a great benefit," said Mr. Boes. "We knew Gemalto offered the MobilePASS app for smartphones, but we didn't use before. Now, we use it a lot. Having the mobile phone as a token is very user-friendly and also easy to manage."

There were several benefits and advantages of SafeNet Trusted Access that played a pivotal role in ASZ's final decision, including:

- Easy management thanks to fully automated workflows. These include automated lifecycle administration, including the provisioning and revocation of users and tokens, as well as automated red flag alerts that allow management by exception.
- Low Total Cost of Operation (TCO). With subscription-based pricing, low IT operational overhead and cloud-based delivery that eliminate the need to manage servers and additional infrastructure, ASZ found that SafeNet Trusted Access could deliver the best value for money.
- Convenience provided by Thales's OTP apps. SafeNet MobilePASS OTP apps enable doctors and other staff members to use the same device they already carry on their person be it smartphone or tablet - to be transformed into an OTPgenerating token.
- Compliance with international standards. Hospitals in the Netherlands must adhere to NEN7510, WGBO, WBP, KWZ,NIAZ and several other security standards, as well as prove the security of cloud solutions. SafeNet Trusted Access has received ISO 27001:2013 accreditation, the highest attainable credibility ranking for information security management.
- Prevalidated Citrix integrations. Thales's fully tested, fully documented integrations with Citrix Access Gateway and Citrix NetScaler enabled ASZ to seamlessly integrate their environment with SafeNet Trusted Access.

About Square One Solutions

Square One Solutions is an award-winning systems integrator that implements innovative products and services together with its customers' virtualization solutions from desktop to data center in the cloud. For 20 years, Square One Solutions has acted as a trusted advisor and extension of organizations' IT departments, specializing in mobile and cloud computing, thin clients, BYOD policy, remote workforce applications, and more.

About Thales's SafeNet Access Management and Authentication Solutions

Thales's industry-leading Access Management and Authentication solutions let enterprises centrally manage and secure access to enterprise IT, web and cloud-based applications. Utilizing policybased SSO and universal authentication methods, enterprises can effectively prevent breaches, migrate to the cloud securely and simplify regulatory compliance.

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