

Laser Pioneer Secures Network End-to-End to Protect Assets



Coherent mitigates against global cyber threats with Cisco Cloud Web Security.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Customer Name: Coherent, Inc.
Industry: Manufacturing
Location: Santa Clara, CA
Number of Employees: 2400

CHALLENGE

- Mitigate inbound, outbound web threats to protect network
- Address cost and staff efficiencies

SOLUTION

- Integrate Cloud Web Security to protect web access
- Institute security service-level agreement (SLA) for more complete, cost-effective solution
- Leverage interoperability of range of Cisco Security products

RESULTS

- Provides tighter security measures against cyber threats
- Reduces costs by 10 percent through bundling security products
- Supplies more granular reporting for better decision-making

Challenge

Founded in 1966, Coherent, Inc. (NASDAQ: COHR) is a world leader in photonics-based solutions, primarily lasers, for a range of commercial and scientific research applications. The company designs, manufactures, services, and markets lasers, laser tools, precision optics, and related accessories. Its products are used in microelectronics, scientific research and government programs, original equipment manufacturer components, instrumentation, and materials processing.

The company is headquartered in Santa Clara, California, with locations across North America and in Europe and Asia, including 11 manufacturing sites and smaller sales and services locations. With 2400 employees, Coherent is growing at about 10 percent per year, with accelerated expansion in Asia and Europe.

Coherent's IT team recognized that it needed to address the growing proliferation of web threats to its network to safeguard its business and intellectual property. This proliferation put a strain on the team to stay ahead of the explosion of malware, botnets, and other cyber-security challenges worldwide. With a remote sales force and services team, and more than 25 facilities, the company was looking

for additional inbound and outbound threat protection. Coherent wanted to help ensure protection down to its smaller offices. The company's IT team also needed to address cost and time savings, with its resources increasingly limited.

Solution

The company considered several competitive solutions, including Cisco® Cloud Web Security (CWS), due to its longstanding relationship as a Cisco customer. After careful consideration, the Coherent IT team felt the Cisco CWS would provide the kind of real-time protection from malware infections and improper or uncontrolled web application use that it needed.

The inclusion of Cisco Security Intelligence Operations (SIO) to dynamically detect and block threats in real time was of particular interest. The extension of the protection to mobile users with Cisco AnyConnect® Secure Mobility Client is a critical feature for Coherent's remote sales team.

“Having the entire security suite at our fingertips has given us agility to enhance our toolbox on the fly. It's been easy to manage, and we don't need to worry about whether to add security elements when we order routers or firewalls; they just come included.”

— Bryan Wise, Director of Information Technology

The tight integration with Cisco ASA 5500 Series Adaptive Security Appliances and ISR G2 routers allows extended coverage without the expense of additional hardware. The company already uses Cisco AnyConnect VPN for its subcontractor community and third-party partners, and it uses Cisco ASA firewalls, so this simplified the deployment.

By bundling its security solutions together through the Cisco Security Enterprise License Agreement (ELA), Coherent found it could cost-effectively mitigate against security threats with a more complete coverage.

“In IT, it's all about having to do more with less these days,” says Bryan Wise, director of information technology, Coherent. “We already had experienced maintenance savings of about 70 percent by bundling Cisco's firewall functionality with IPS and with the VPN a few years ago. We were ready to see what other gains we might get through the Cisco Security ELA.”

Coherent also has gained additional security protections from the Cisco Intrusion Prevention System (IPS), integrated with the ASA firewalls, a significant feature for the company. The inclusion of the Cisco Web Security Appliance (WSA), as well as Cloud Web Security integration on the ISR G2, in several locations provides an additional measure of security, with the integrated web security solution giving them a choice of using McAfee or Sophos anti-virus/anti-malware.

Cisco Email Security Appliance (ESA) has been smoothly implemented in Coherent's environment of 2400 mailboxes. Through the ELA, the subscription is included, such that as the company adds offices, it can more easily add users. Plans to deploy Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) are developing to provide network endpoint protection for employee PCs and printers, through 802.1X authentication in their wired environment. This protection will also be extended to their conference rooms.

PRODUCT LIST

Security

- Cisco Security Enterprise License Agreement (ELA)
- Cisco ASA 5500 Series Adaptive Security Appliance
- Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client
- Cisco Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)
- Cisco Cloud Web Security
- Cisco Cloud Email Security
- Cisco Web Security Appliance
- Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE)

Routers and Switches

- Cisco ISR G2 Routers
- Cisco Catalyst® 3750 and 6500 series

Data Center

- Cisco Unified Computing System™ (UCS®) C series
- Cisco Nexus® 5500 series

Services

- Cisco Security IntelliShield®

Results

The Cisco Security ELA gives Coherent a single point of contact within Cisco to manage its comprehensive suite of products and services. It also provides a blanket policy for implementation of new products with a specific level of security.

“Since we rely so much on Cisco security, it was a bit of a no-brainer,” says Wise. “We have identified a number of new features we now use, including botnet tracking functionality, and other products that were easy to turn on, because it’s all bundled together.”

“The cost savings by having all security products bundled together versus purchasing one by one has been approximately 10 percent,” says Wise.

According to Wise, the Coherent team has leveraged Cisco Cloud Web Security to provide integrated protection with the Cisco ISR G2 routers, which more adeptly secures the company’s smaller sites.

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to enhance our toolbox on the fly,” Wise says. “It’s been easy to manage, and we don’t need to worry about whether to add security elements when we order routers or firewalls; they just come included.”

The result is a time savings to the IT staff of 35 percent in reduced configuration and implementation support. Coherent benefits from a high, consistent level of security on its network worldwide, so it can continue to grow and focus on its business, he says.

For More Information

To find out more about Cisco Cloud Web Security, ASA 5500 Series Adaptive Security Appliance, Web Security Appliance, Cloud Email Security, AnyConnect, Intrusion Prevention System, Identity Services Engine and ISR G2 routers, go to:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/asa>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/anyconnect>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/ips>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/cloudwebsecurity>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/emailsecurity>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/websecurity>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/ise>

<http://www.cisco.com/go/routersecurity>




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