



CASE STUDY

SBA Info Strengthens Applications Security of India's Most Trusted Bank with F5 WAF Implementation

The Client

Our customer is one of the leading scheduled commercial banks in the private sector with a significant presence in urban, semi-urban and rural centers in South India. The bank's segments include Treasury, Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, and other banking operations. The bank operates ATMs and Bills Recycler Machines in approximately 1,800 locations, including over 760 off-site ATMs. Their technological leadership can be gauged from the fact that it was India's first bank to introduce on-site humanoid (robot) in November 2016.

Business Need

Our customer performed an Audit on IT Security to ascertain whether their websites and web applications are secure. As a result, they detected that their internal applications are vulnerable to certain extent. The application vendors were able to extend only limited support and projected a longer time duration to fix these vulnerabilities. However, it was very critical for our customer to keep malicious hackers out and make sure their internal applications

are secure and trustworthy. From a compliance perspective too, our customer had a very limited time to fix the identified vulnerabilities.

As their internal applications were developed and managed by different vendors, our customer wanted to immediately have an in-house solution to ensure the vulnerabilities are not exploited, rather than waiting for the vendor to fix the same, which is going to take much more time. In this way, their compliance needs also can be met.

The Solution

As a first step, SBA Info performed a detailed analysis of the customer's business requirements. We proposed to implement a Web Application Firewall (WAF) to add a stronger layer of defense between attackers and customer's internal applications.

Highlights of SBA Info's WAF solution:

- We conducted an extensive evaluation of multiple WAF vendors and recommended implementing F5 advanced WAF solutions. The reason being, F5's Advanced WAF combines machine learning, threat intelligence,

and deep application expertise to detect and break evolving application-layer threats

- The WAF solution implemented by SBA protects customer's internal web applications by monitoring and filtering traffic. It screens HTTP requests and responses at the application layer itself. By evaluating the traffic at the individual user sessions level, our solution detects and block application-layer attacks that often slip past other defenses
- Our client was using internal load balancers and SBA proposed to replace the same also along with F5 WAF as it comes with a load balancing solution
- The solution also included services from SBA, to move all their applications behind WAF and ensure seamless mitigation against the vulnerabilities being exploited

Tools Used

F5 Advanced WAF

Results

Following are some of the significant results achieved by our customer, after SBA's solution was implemented.

- Enhanced security posture of their internal web applications against cyber attacks
- Easy to scale defense mechanism that supports business innovation and agility
- Replacement of existing load balancers reduced their management overheads in terms of maintaining two independent solutions. This proved to be reducing their overall costs as well

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About SBA Info Solutions

SBA Info Solutions is an ISO 27001:2013, 9001:2015 & 20000-1:2011 certified firm serving as a trusted technology partner focused on innovative, next-generation services and solutions in the areas of Data Center, Cloud, and Information Security services. With our 30+ years of experience and time-tested consultative sales approach, we empower BFSI, Manufacturing, Infrastructure, IT & ITES, and Institutional organizations to improve IT security and maximize the efficiency of their Data Center or Cloud environment by enabling the adoption of the latest technologies, business agility and accelerate responding to immediate business needs and security threats. Our headquarters is located in Chennai, India and our key customers include BHEL Ltd, City Union Bank, Hyundai, IIT Madras, Kasturi & Sons, Karur Vysya Bank, The Hindu Group, L&T Ltd, Royal Sundaram, Sriram Group, Star Health, TNPL, Access Healthcare, Cholamandalam Investments, FIS Global. Visit www.sbainfo.in for more information.