SECURELY CONNECTED

NHS Digital enhances security and continues to protect patient data with a holistic network analytics solution

OBJECTIVE

NHS Digital’s primary goals include helping organisations make better use of health and care information and ensuring that everyone’s data is protected. The provision of the NHS Digital Health and Social Care Network (HSCN) is key to achieving these aims; this new private Wide Area Network succeeds the legacy NHS N3 network, enabling NHS organisations across the UK to share digital patient records and other data via a reliable and feature-rich platform. Ensuring the security of the HSCN is vital to its success.

SOLUTION

NHS Digital partnered with Computacenter and Cisco to deploy a network analytics solution. This “business-enabling security” solution is a component of Computacenter’s Digital Trust offering. As a Cisco Gold Partner, Computacenter engaged and united with Cisco to design and build the analytics solution and the underlying hardware platform. Based on Cisco Stealthwatch combined with data analytics technology, the solution will identify patterns of potentially malicious behaviour and track and send information to a centralised Security Information and Event Management system. Computacenter designed and led the project, providing a single source of information and technical oversight and integrating the expertise of Computacenter and Cisco’s resources to deliver a comprehensive solution for NHS Digital.

OUTCOME

The business-enabling security solution delivered by Computacenter and Cisco will provide NHS Digital’s security analysts with full visibility of traffic patterns and potential threats across the HSCN. These incidents will be remediated using bespoke security playbooks created by Computacenter together with Cisco, safeguarding business continuity for caregivers at the front line and preventing delays for their patients. The new network, with its enhanced security, will enable healthcare professionals at regional hospitals, clinics and GPs surgeries to share and protect vital digital patient data, maximising efficiency and enabling better quality care.

“…The combined Computacenter and Cisco team’s expertise and commitment meant we were able to meet the tight project deadline. By enhancing NHS Digital’s security capabilities, we’ve been able to reduce the risk of threats and disruption to patient care.”

Stefan Phillips, Account manager, Computacenter