Enterprises trust BitSight to assess their third-party risk. BitSight trusts Enterprise Application Access to ensure secure access to their own internal applications

> " We have been able to scale the number of third-party and internal users by 5X - and we never even had to touch or reconfigure the solution. EAA has made access to apps easy and painless for the IT team.
>
> **— Kevin Amorin,** Director of Engineering, BitSight

The Situation

BitSight Technologies — headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts — is transforming how companies manage information security risk with objective, verifiable, and actionable Security Ratings. Founded in 2011, the company built its Security Rating Platform to continuously analyze vast amounts of external data on security issues and behaviors in order to help organizations manage third-party risk, underwrite cyber insurance policies, benchmark performance, conduct M&A due diligence, and assess aggregate risk. Seven of the top 10 cyber insurers, 56 Fortune 500 companies, and 3 of the top 5 investment banks rely on BitSight to manage cyber risks.

The Challenge

As with any growing technology company, BitSight relies on software tools to evaluate, optimize, and help run various parts of their business. In 2015, BitSight users at various locations worldwide began using an analytic suite of software from a third-party vendor.

Since this enterprise software needed to be accessible by users from any mobile or desktop device, all aspects of secure access — data integrity, user privacy, and application security — were of paramount concern. In addition, because the application needed to be available via the Internet, it also needed to be exposed in a stealthy mode, so that it was not overtly visible to attackers via the Internet.

Initially, the application was used by only a handful of employees, and traditional VPN access proved acceptable. However, as the number of users grew, and as the user community was extended to include third-party contractors, the complexity of deploying, managing, and maintaining a VPN infrastructure became a big, ongoing headache for IT.

The Goals

When it became apparent that VPNs would not scale to meet BitSight's future requirements, the IT team evaluated a number of different solutions. The team sought a solution that would:

- Work seamlessly with two products already in use at BitSight: Google Authenticator and Google Directory
- Obtain a secure access solution that met BitSight's requirements for enterprise-class scalability, simplicity, compliance, security, high availability, and low cost

Finding a solution that could meet both of these requirements proved a challenge - until BitSight discovered Akamai's Enterprise Application Access (EAA).

COMPANY

BitSight Technologies
Cambridge, MA
http://www.bitsighttech.com

INDUSTRY

Software & Technology

SOLUTIONS

- Enterprise Application Access

KEY IMPACTS

- Secure connectivity without VPNs
- Cloud-based service vs. a traditional VPN solution
- Highly scalable with minimal management
- Simplicity, ease of use

BitSight Technologies

Why Akamai?

EAA enabled BitSight's third-party contractors and employees to seamlessly and securely connect to their internal analytics application via any browser, without the need for a VPN or proxy. From a BitSight IT perspective, EAA provides a pain-free access enterprise solution that works hand-in-hand with their existing Google Authenticator and Google Directory infrastructure. EAA was easy to install, deploy, and implement, requiring zero network hardware, software, or configuration changes. Moreover, BitSight has been able to scale the number of users for this application by 5X without needing to touch the EAA at all.

Painless, Secure Remote Access

EAA has turned remote access on its head, using a secure cloud to provide a new and better way to solve the pain for applications hosted in data centers and hybrid cloud environments. Approaching the problem in a fundamentally different way, EAA is a service that delivers access to enterprise applications without providing users access to the entire network. With EAA, you get a centralized, managed solution that does not require external hardware or software. Managing and controlling third-party access becomes simple and uncluttered — and with the elimination of complexity comes fundamentally better security.

With EAA, no one can get to applications directly because they are hidden from the Internet and public exposure. EAA's dual-cloud architecture closes all inbound firewall ports while providing authenticated end users access to only their specific applications. EAA integrates data path protection, identity access, application security, and management visibility and control into a single service.

Simple for IT, Simple for Users

Delivered as a centrally managed service, EAA does not require complex network integration by the end user. EAA pre-integrates all core functionality and provides simple connection to third-party directories, SIEM tools, and security devices. It is a solution for any data center or hybrid cloud app environment.

Enabling Business

EAA removes the chronic pain suffered by IT teams associated with managing remote and third-party access. EAA is easy to deploy, provision, change, and monitor. EAA removes all the complexity: no device software, no software upgrades or updates, and no additional hardware. User management – from on boarding to off boarding – is a breeze. As a central point of entry and control, EAA provides a single management pane for detailed audit, visibility, control, and compliance reporting. The result is painless, secure remote access.

FASTER FORWARD

As the global leader in Content Delivery Network (CDN) services, Akamai makes the Internet fast, reliable, and secure for its customers. The company's advanced web performance, mobile performance, cloud security, and media delivery solutions are revolutionizing how businesses optimize consumer, enterprise, and entertainment experiences for any device, anywhere. To learn how Akamai solutions and its team of Internet experts are helping businesses move faster forward, please visit www.akamai.com or blogs.akamai.com, and follow @Akamai on Twitter.

Akamai is headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts in the United States with operations in more than 57 offices around the world. Our services and renowned customer care are designed to enable businesses to provide an unparalleled Internet experience for their customers worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and contact information for all locations are listed on www.akamai.com/locations.