Local Government Agency Securely Integrates Data Across Consolidated Departments; Increases Protection and Compliance

Protecting sensitive information of thousands of people is no small feat – learn how this local government accomplished that, all while improving process and security.

When a large Southern California county combined seven departments under a single, consolidated agency, it needed to integrate data accessed and stored by its 6,000 employees located across more than 30 county-wide offices.

In addition, it had to provide employees with appropriate levels of secure access while protecting the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) of hundreds of thousands of residents and maintaining compliance with state regulations.

What was the best way to approach this challenge?

• Build a secure infrastructure.
• Standardize and enforce new security policies.
• Increase the integration and sharing of data.
• Protect residents’ PII and maintain compliance.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Organization Size: 6,000 employees
Organization Industry: Southern California local government organization

Challenge: To build a secure infrastructure, standardize and enforce new security policies and increase the integration and sharing of data while protecting residents’ PII.

IMPACT

• Implemented new, robust security strategy without adding staff or burden to existing personnel
• Enabled consistent enforcement of security policies throughout the agency
• Decreased risk of data breaches
• Increased protection of PII
SECURITY ASSESSMENT SERVICES:  
A Streamlined Implementation and Added Value

Requirement Mapping
To start, Optiv mapped regulatory requirements to the clients’ current environment and policies and developed a comprehensive plan to implement a proactive, preventative security strategy.

Technology Selection
Next, Optiv matched the county’s requirements with products to meet budget, security and performance needs.

Integrated Solution
Optiv helped the county develop and integrate a security program that included:
- Data loss prevention (DLP) technology
- Email encryption to secure email in compliance with state standards
- SIEM solution to log user activity around PII
- Web filtering technology to monitor Internet traffic for PII policy violations

Enforcing Strong Security Policies
Optiv’s services enabled the county to proactively track activity on all network devices. Now, the IT department knows exactly what is installed on each machine, as well as who is accessing specific files, data and applications, and at what time. As a result, the client:

- Better enforces consistent security policies.
- Decreased risk of data breaches.
- Increased protection of PII
- Reduced PII violations through web filtering.
- Met all objectives without burdening existing staff or adding new headcount.
- Achieved compliance with state regulations.