Security Matters at Valspar—and Bromium Is on It

Founded in 1806, Valspar is a global leader in the paint and coatings industry and a member of the Fortune 1000. It is the sixth largest coatings and paint company in the world. Valspar has extended its global reach through a joint venture with Tekno S.A. in Brazil and an 80% interest in Huaran Paints, a leading Chinese supplier of coatings for furniture, decorative wood, and consumer uses.

Company Snapshot

INDUSTRY
Consumer paint and industrial coatings

ENVIRONMENT
10,000 employees in more than 25 countries, including a strong presence in Asia

SOLUTIONS
Bromium® vSentry®
Bromium LAVA™

CHALLENGES
- Protecting users against spear phishing and social engineering attacks
- Current antivirus solution is only 50% effective
- Costly reimaging for infected endpoints, especially CryptoLocker
- "Heroic effort" patching fire drills

BENEFITS
- Stopped range of attacks that antivirus missed (IE zero-day attack, watering-hole attack, PDF-based attack, malvertising)
- Reduced reimaging costs
- Eliminated urgent Java and Flash patching costs
- Eliminates the need to invest in a network access control (NAC) solution
- Provides vastly improved threat intelligence
- Reduces spend on security solutions and IT operational expenses

The challenge: secure users, data, and the network

An awareness of advanced persistent threats (APTs) spurred Jason Corum, global information security manager at Valspar, to rethink his security strategy.

In 2009, Valspar had a near-miss internal data loss event. This eye-opening incident led to various data loss prevention initiatives.

Corum's concerns broadened to advanced persistent threats (APTs) and other sophisticated new cyberthreats including spear phishing and CryptoLocker. He wondered if there might be a way to use virtualization technology as a means of protecting users from threats like these. Coincidently, just a few days after this idea came to him, a Bromium representative contacted him.

Following a SANS Institute training session, Corum felt that the SANS 20 Critical Controls was the ideal framework for Valspar's security strategy and he soon incorporated

Bromium as a key component of this approach to cyberdefense.

Bromium defeats a malicious PDF download

Corum was dissatisfied with the performance of his company's existing antivirus solution, which was only 50% effective at best. Bromium vSentry's ability to isolate user tasks, content, and any potential malware that might enter the endpoint fulfilled his vision of endpoint security. He started with a 30-seat pilot of Bromium, leading to an initial deployment of 1,300 licenses, followed by a phase two deployment of an additional 2,200 licenses a few months after the initial purchase.

During the Bromium pilot, a project manager happened to go online to check weather conditions at his daughter's school. In the process, he unwittingly downloaded a malicious PDF that made hundreds of Internet calls in an effort to open a command-and-control channel. While the Sophos antivirus solution did not trigger on this

Br Bromium®

event, Bromium rose to the occasion and isolated the malware, preventing it from causing any damage.

An added plus was that Bromium Live Attack Visualization & Analysis (LAVA) provided complete visualization of the entire threat execution chain. This offered the security team detailed intelligence, including how the threat used a "sleep" mode to evade endpoint and network detection. "Bromium fits like a glove with the way our users work," said Corum.

Reimaging becomes a thing of the past

Aside from providing vastly improved defenses against advanced threats and valuable threat intelligence, Bromium has also reduced time-consuming IT tasks like reimaging PCs and reactive security patching.

Ransomware cryptoviruses that encrypt hard drives were a big concern—especially since the effectiveness of Valspar's incumbent antivirus solution was so limited. When these threats did strike, remediation was time intensive and costly—it involved completely reimaging a user's PC. "With Bromium, reimaging in situations like these becomes a thing of the past," said Corum.

Reduced security patching

Valspar generally follows a typical security patch routine, with Microsoft patches on user machines done on

every "Patch Tuesday." But it's the out-of-band patches for common, vulnerable applications, like Java and Adobe Flash that regularly demanded "a heroic effort," requiring overtime for the IT team and resulting in downtime for users.

Corum is confident that Bromium will give the Valspar security team more flexibility when it comes to patching. "Hackers want to get administrative/ root access, and they want the malware to persist and survive a reboot. What I like about Bromium is that persistent threats are gone after a single user session. Now we won't have to worry so much about rolling out a heroic patch effort, because Bromium has taken care of the problem already," said Corum.

Key bottom line benefit: no need for network access control

Corum also welcomes another huge bottom line benefit: Bromium eliminates the need for a network access control solution. "When users connect with their Bromium-protected laptops at airports, hotels, or cafes, threats are contained by the micro-VM," said Corum. "Users can get back on the corporate network with a clean device, so there's no need for NAC. NAC solutions can be expensive, tricky, and fragile, and they can inadvertently block user network access, even if the device passes all pre-access checks." Eliminating the need for NAC enables

Br Bromium®

To learn more about Bromium's game-changing security architecture, please visit www.bromium.com.

the IT team to focus on other business-generating priorities and save precious budget dollars.

The total solution

Corum is pleased that Bromium deployments at Valspar have gone quickly and smoothly—and users are welcoming the added security, which allows them to browse freely and open Internet downloads without worrying about invasive and potentially damaging threats.

He looks forward to feeding LAVA intelligence into his patching system and to using that information to better secure non-Bromium machines at Valspar. "Bromium has the potential for being the total solution I've been looking for," concludes Corum.

Br **Bromium**®

For more information refer to www.bromium.com or contact sales@bromium.com