

Fiditalia

FINANCE

Renowned for its high security standards, Fiditalia chose Sophos as its technology partner when they needed comprehensive protection that would safeguard its million-user infrastructure from threats and protect all its data without negatively impacting on network performance.



Business challenge

Fiditalia, part of the Société Générale Group, is one of the principal Italian forces in the consumer credit sector, in which it has operated for over 25 years. With an international presence, Fiditalia has over one million active customers.

Fiditalia has always sought to integrate into the company more effective solutions to assure absolute protection of data and information. An investigation revealed that 70-80% of attacks came from within the company, prompting a search for a comprehensive solution. It was critical that these threats were detected and fixed without the risk of sensitive data being

compromised and without impacting network performance.

Lucio Santaniello, Head of Technological Infrastructure and Operations at Fiditalia, explains: “We were conscious of the fact that monitoring all the internal happenings at Fiditalia should take a multi-dimensional approach and should take into consideration a series of factors: technical, human, economic and educational, creating awareness of problems. However, we needed a solution that allowed secure access to our network for over 200 consultants who work daily on the implementation of our important

Key facts

Company

Fiditalia – Société Générale Group

Location

Milan

Solutions

Endpoint Security and Control
Email Security and Control
ES4000 Email Appliance
Sophos NAC Advanced

Environment

Windows and Linux

“Thanks to Sophos, Fiditalia has been able to count on full control of its system... It has increased respect for company policies, proactivity on the part of its users, and attention to the correct use of the company network.”

Lucio Santaniello, Head of Technological Infrastructure and Operations Fiditalia

projects and, at the same time, that would be able to manage all of the network users, including regular employees.”

Technology solution

Fiditalia turned to Sophos for total protection of its IT infrastructure. It found that Sophos NAC Advanced would satisfy its security needs and resolve the problems being experienced internally while not slowing down users or operations. Five days’ implementation time was sufficient to define the security policy and the assessment of all of the company computers. In one day the reporting system and alarms were configured, and the solution was executed without any negative influence to the network shortly after.

Sophos’s initial collaboration took place with the implementation of Sophos Anti-Virus for Windows (provided by Enterprise Console) involving deployment to all of the computers at the headquarters and at all of the branches.

The company has subsequently optimized the management of the users who are dispersed throughout Italy and not covered by a branch office network by implementing Sophos NAC Advanced. This automatically updates users’ PCs with the latest anti-virus patches when they connect to the network remotely. In addition to reducing the vulnerability of company-managed computers, Fiditalia can now manage the security compliance of the 200 consultants accessing its network on a daily basis.

Engaging a defense policy in the infrastructure has generated new needs in Fiditalia linked to the protection against threats like viruses, Trojans, worms and spyware. Since using Sophos, Fiditalia has protected its network and its email gateway without compromising stability and system performance levels.

At the end of 2007, Fiditalia felt the need to round out its security policy by responding to the necessity of protecting company-owned computers and the network against all possible risks, known and unknown, internal and external.



Business results

“The ease of its implementation and management together with its flexibility were the combined virtues that led us to choose the innovative technology proposed by Sophos. Now we have control over every workstation’s compliance: this allows us not only network access for our consultants, but also work optimisation for our business force which, thanks to Sophos NAC Advanced, can utilize their portable PCs without any risk to the company, and simultaneously reduce the costs and time dedicated to updating,” stresses Santaniello.

The long and profitable relationship of collaboration between Fiditalia and Sophos has also benefitted from the service that enables rapid and effective implementation of solutions integrated into the company over the years.

“Considerably more was offered by Sophos, like the optimum level of services and competencies. Thanks to tight collaboration with the Sophos team, since 2001 Fiditalia has been able to count on absolute continuity in the development of its activities, and on complete integrity and full control of our systems. In this way it has increased sensitivity towards respecting company policies – proactivity on the part of its users in the case of anomalies – and attention to the correct use of the company network,” concludes Santaniello.

To find out how Sophos products can help protect your organization, visit www.sophos.com/products