Sicredi Migrates Security Environment to Security Connected with McAfee Professional Services

Comprehensive Security with one vendor

Sicredi depends on McAfee to provide a secure environment for its end users and customers. Along with the Security Connected strategy and help from McAfee Professional Services, McAfee proves to be a great partner offering superior products and stellar service.
Sicredi is one of Brazil’s largest credit union systems, encompassing 99 credit unions and more than 1,300 branches across 11 states. Collectively, Sicredi credit unions have more than 18,000 employees and serve more than 2.9 million members. All credit unions share a common purpose: to promote savings accounts, manage resources, and extend loans to their members, in addition to providing the banking services offered by conventional financial institutions.

**Removing Multivendor Complexity**

Like any large financial institution, Sicredi depends on state-of-the-art security technologies not only to protect its members’ confidential information, but also to comply with Brazilian government regulations. The previous Sicredi security environment relied on multiple vendors to handle different aspects of endpoint, email, web, and data protection.

“With more than 1,000 branch offices around the country and so many different security solutions, it was very difficult to manage and maintain our multivendor security environment,” explains Alexandre Dambroz, information security coordinator, Sicredi. “We needed to adopt a single-vendor, integrated solution in order to reduce complexity and work more efficiently.”

**A Comprehensive, Single-Vendor Approach**

To address these challenges, Sicredi has adopted a comprehensive suite of security and data integrity solutions from McAfee. In addition to protecting more than 22,000 endpoints in the corporate network, the McAfee solutions are fully integrated and easily managed through a single, centralized console powered by McAfee® ePolicy Orchestrator® (McAfee ePO™) software.

In addition to McAfee ePO software, the Sicredi security infrastructure includes McAfee Endpoint Protection—Advanced Suite, McAfee VirusScan® Enterprise, McAfee Complete Data Protection, McAfee Host Data Loss Prevention Endpoint, McAfee Management for Optimized Virtual Environments AntiVirus (McAfee MOVE AntiVirus), and McAfee Web Gateway.

“Now that we’re operating under an McAfee Connected framework, we not only have complete protection for all of our servers, desktops, mobile devices, and ATMs but our environment is now completely centralized and unified,” Dambroz notes.

He continues, “The single management console offered by McAfee ePO [software] is a huge differentiator for McAfee and was one of the main reasons we chose the McAfee product suite. With only three engineers, we’re easily able to monitor and manage our entire security ecosystem.”
CASE STUDY

Protecting Members’ Confidential Information

With all 22,000 machines protected, Sicredi has McAfee Complete Data Protection and McAfee Host Data Loss Prevention Endpoint on every desktop in the enterprise.

McAfee Data Loss Prevention keeps a record of all data leaving the Sicredi network’s egress points, which gives the company precise visibility into how its sensitive information is being used. The system generates a weekly report that indicates which users are accessing confidential information and how they’re using it—whether it’s sent in email or written to local drives. The report also shows the top 20 destinations of confidential information, as well as attempts to copy the information to offline locations outside the corporate network.

“McAfee Data Loss Prevention is an extremely important tool for us to keep track of exactly how our sensitive information is being used and where it’s going,” Dambroz says. “The solution ensures our compliance with the Brazilian central bank’s regulations, which specify that we must carefully protect our members’ financial and transactional data, as well as their personal information.”

Guarding the Internet

Today, all 18,000 users in the Sicredi enterprise are protected by McAfee Web Gateway for URL filtering.

“With 18,000 users constantly sending email and browsing the Internet, McAfee gives us the peace of mind that they’re not introducing malware through email or browsing sites that might cause potential harm,” Dambroz remarks.

He adds that the new solutions are easier to use and less complex than the previous systems. For example, the former web gateway tool required more than 30 different rules, but Sicredi was able to add stronger and more effective web security with just five rules in McAfee Web Gateway.

Protection for an Increasingly Virtual Environment

With McAfee MOVE AntiVirus, Sicredi is able to deliver agentless endpoint protection to more than 700 virtual machines and 44 hypervisors across the company’s two data centers. “Because we can deploy McAfee MOVE AV [AntiVirus] in an agentless configuration, we can reduce overhead and improve I/O performance,” Dambroz notes. “Also, the system is less complex to manage and update.”

Professional Services for Smooth and Effortless Deployment

To aid in its migration to a single-vendor security environment, Sicredi engaged McAfee Professional Services. The McAfee consultants quickly became an important part of the Sicredi security team, helping the company smoothly integrate the new solutions within a narrow timeframe.

“The migration represented a tremendous shift for our IT organization. Everything changed: servers, our processes, our support lines,” Dambroz comments. “In addition to product deployment and integration, the McAfee consultants worked with us to redesign all of our security processes to make best use of the new technologies.”

—Alexandre Dambroz, Information Security Coordinator, Sicredi
He adds, “Since many of our previous security systems were coming up on the end of their contracts, we had a limited amount of time to deploy the new McAfee solutions. We needed to do everything right the first time, and McAfee Professional Services provided the expertise to help us meet our objectives and deploy the new solutions quickly and effectively.”

**A Solid Security Partnership**

By implementing multiple McAfee products under the Security Connected vision, Sicredi now has full visibility into the use of sensitive information on all devices.

Plus, McAfee ePO software provides economies of scale through streamlined, centralized management with new efficiencies that free the security team to spend more time on strategic projects.

“McAfee is an indispensable partner in our ongoing efforts to offer a safe computing environment for our members, partners and employees,” Dambroz summarizes. “With McAfee, we’ve been able to bring the company to a more professional and comprehensive information security level.”

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