

CASE STUDY

Danish Regional TV Station Deploys New Network Architecture for Increased Security and Simplified Administration

Created in 1986 and first airing in 1988, TV2 was the first alternative to Denmark's original public service radio and TV broadcasting company, Denmark Radio (DR). Within three years, TV2 had become the largest TV channel in Denmark, with programs ranging from news, current affairs, documentaries, and lifestyle to entertainment, sports, dramas, films, and children's television.

TV2 East, which employs around 100 staff and is based in Vordingborg, is one of eight TV2 Regions that operate as independent companies, each providing its own journalistic coverage, but retaining certain public service obligations with regular news broadcasts several times a day in regional windows on TV2's main channel.

Firewall Renewal Paves Way for New Security Architecture

In early 2020, to support the evolving networking and security requirements of its digital broadcasting operations, TV2 East embarked on a project to upgrade its existing data center firewalls.

The many different traffic types associated with TV broadcasting, each with its own unique bandwidth and latency requirements and some using proprietary protocols, presented challenges in terms of throughput, quality of service, and threat exposure.

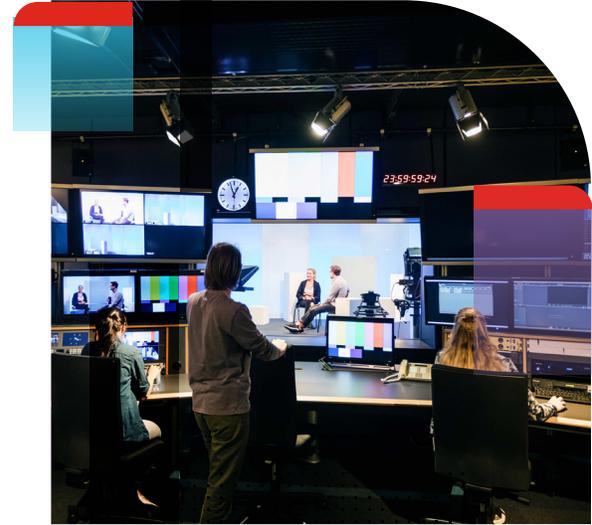
In addition to these technical challenges and the ongoing requirement for more comprehensive security to combat the rise in advanced new cyber threats, the company needed to simplify administration.

"We're only a small team," explains Morten Juliussen, head of IT for TV2 East, "so while we needed a solution advanced and powerful enough to fully protect our complex broadcasting environment, we also wanted management simple enough for our team to be able to monitor and control the network with confidence."

After evaluating a range of possible solutions and their vendors, TV2 East selected Fortinet.

With its purpose-built security processing unit (SPU), the FortiGate Next-Generation Firewall (NGFW) can differentiate between thousands of different traffic types and carry out a comprehensive range of advanced threat protection processing without compromising throughput or latency.

Following the successful deployment of FortiGate NGFWs at the data center, TV2 East took the opportunity to also upgrade its Ethernet switches and wireless access points with FortiSwitch and FortiAP, bringing both wired and wireless network access under the same centralized management umbrella provided by FortiManager.



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Details

Customer: TV2 ØST (TV2 East)

Industry: Media/TV Broadcasting

Location: Denmark

Business Impact

- Increased data center throughput and application performance
- Increased resilience to advanced cyber threats through enhanced security processing and traffic segmentation
- Eased support burden with simplified management and automated response

Available in a scalable range of switching platforms designed to meet the needs of any deployment from those of a small branch office to the dense, high-bandwidth requirements of a large data center, FortiSwitch delivers secure, simple, Ethernet connectivity with outstanding throughput, resilience, and scalability.

Similarly, with three radios and options up to eight spatial streams, the FortiAP platform provides unparalleled Wi-Fi coverage and connectivity that can scale to the needs of any environment—indoor or outdoor, large or small.

Moreover, through an innovative proprietary management protocol known as FortiLink, both FortiSwitch and FortiAP can be managed as logical extensions of the FortiGate NGFW. This reduces complexity and decreases management cost as network security and access layer functions are enabled and managed through a single console.

As a result, through FortiManager, Mr. Juliussen and the team now have simplified administration and visibility of the entire TV2 East network with streamlined provisioning and innovative automation tools.

To extend this single-pane visibility and control to encompass orchestration, automation, and response, FortiAnalyzer was also deployed, adding simplified security operations, proactive identification and remediation of risks, and even greater visibility of the attack surface.

Broader Visibility and Greater Control

Due to FortiLink and other deep integrations between the Fortinet products, additional benefits emerge as they are brought together under the common management umbrella of FortiManager and FortiAnalyzer.

In this way, such a combination of products becomes greater than the sum of its parts. Through the collaborative sharing of threat intelligence and artificial intelligence-driven automation of the threat response, the component solutions work in concert to form a cybersecurity platform known as the Fortinet Security Fabric, providing broader visibility and greater control across the organization's digital attack surface.

The net result is an integrated solution that reduces the complexity of advanced network security, minimizes risk, and lowers the administrative burden through a combination of automated workflows and more efficient management and reporting.

The solution also leverages external threat intelligence provided by FortiGuard Labs, which collates and processes the data from myriad anonymized sensors and over 200 global partners around the world using artificial intelligence and machine learning to identify unique features for both known and unknown threats.

“What began as a search for a more powerful firewall ended up leading to a whole new security architecture,” concludes Mr. Juliussen. “Through the Fortinet Security Fabric, we’ve built a solution that not only meets our throughput and security requirements for the foreseeable future, but which is also far easier to manage and maintain, allowing us to achieve more with the same resources as before.”

Solutions

- FortiGate
- FortiSwitch
- FortiAP
- FortiManager
- FortiAnalyzer

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