

XING Improves Security and Transparency of Access Rights with PowerBroker

BEYONDTRUST CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

Challenge: Ensure Higher Level of Security, Improve Transparency of Access Rights, and Reduce Time for Setting Up User Rights

THE COMPANY

XING is the social network for business professionals. Approximately 14 million members worldwide — more than 6.7 million of whom are based in German-speaking countries — use XING to boost their businesses and careers. XING is a platform where professionals from a variety of industries can meet up, find jobs, colleagues, new assignments, cooperation partners and experts, and generate business ideas. Members can meet and exchange views in over 50,000 specialist groups, while also getting together at networking events.

The platform is operated by XING AG, which was founded in Hamburg, Germany, in 2003, has been publicly listed since 2006, and listed on the TecDAX since September 2011. In December 2010, XING acquired amando AG, a Munich-based company and Europe's leading provider of online event management and ticketing. The acquisition in early 2013 of kununu GmbH, the leading platform for employer reviews in German-speaking countries, has allowed XING to extend its position as the social recruiting market leader.

THE CHALLENGE

With a Linux infrastructure containing 500 physical servers and approximately 1,000 virtualized servers, XING found that its existing privilege elevation process was too time consuming and did not allow for a consistent set of access rights. Director of Site Operations Holger Bürger was seeking to improve command elevation from an administrative point of view, as well as establish better auditing features for his and his colleagues' use as managers.

Bürger and his team didn't need an additional product; they wanted additional support in case any issues arose. They also needed to stay within budget.

"Increasing our security posture is a key priority for us," according to Bürger. Beyond greater security threats, internal audit issues, or forward-looking security initiatives around protecting customer privacy, "it was about the question of how can we raise the overall level of privileged accounts and keep that level without adding new headcount," he explains.

Furthermore, XING needed to keep in mind a number of regulatory and compliance requirements related to German privacy and related laws. This includes protection of private data, Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS), as well as other requirements for public companies.

Solution Summary

CUSTOMER TYPE

Global social networking platform for business professionals.

CHALLENGE

To ensure a higher level of security; improve transparency of access rights; use Active Directory (AD) integration; and reduce the time spent for setting up users and individual rights.

SOLUTION

PowerBroker improved overall security, supported an increase in the level of privileged accounts and enabled a less time-consuming process for XING.

With PowerBroker, we have better user engagement/experience for our customers, along with better security.

— Director of Site Operations, XING

XING IMPROVES SECURITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF ACCESS RIGHTS WITH POWERBROKER

THE SOLUTION

The decision to deploy PowerBroker from BeyondTrust came to XING through an existing customer reference. All productive servers (500 physical and 450 virtual) have PowerBroker for Linux and Identity Server installed. As a result, XING has realized greater visibility and the controls necessary to increase its security posture.

According to XING's Bürger, assurance services firms such as PricewaterhouseCoopers are fans of reporting and structure. "We were able to address their questions and showed them what we implemented using PowerBroker, which would have been nearly impossible with something like sudo."

The PowerBroker Server has empowered XING to delegate root tasks and authorization on its Linux systems. Using PowerBroker as its enterprise privilege management solution has provided XING with audit-friendly logging and comprehensive reporting to help satisfy its internal and external compliance requirements.

Using PowerBroker has been the perfect solution for reaching XING's goals. The company has been able to manage a growing infrastructure that has more users, with the same amount of people and less effort.

"With PowerBroker, we have better user engagement/experience for our customers, along with better security," says Bürger. He has also found that "after setting up roles for all the different user types, adding new users is easy. Right now, we're working on creating reports for different purposes."

The response been from the user community around the use of the BeyondTrust solutions XING has implemented has been extremely positive. "Everybody is very happy about the use of PowerBroker. Shared home-directories and a faster process in getting the appropriate rights have made the implementation a great success," cites Bürger

About BeyondTrust

BeyondTrust is a global security company that believes preventing data breaches requires the right visibility to enable control over internal and external risks.

We give you the visibility to confidently reduce risks and the control to take proactive, informed action against data breach threats. And because threats can come from anywhere, we built a platform that unifies the most effective technologies for addressing both internal and external risk: Privileged Account Management and Vulnerability Management. Our solutions grow with your needs, making sure you maintain control no matter where your organization goes.

BeyondTrust's security solutions are trusted by over 4,000 customers worldwide, including half of the Fortune 100.

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