

Pernod Ricard

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Challenge

Accelerate the deployment of secure applications and ensure high availability with an application delivery solution that is easily deployed and managed

Solution

- Pulse Secure Virtual Traffic Manager
- Pulse Secure Web Accelerator
- Runs on common off the shelf servers based on Intel's x86 architectures and Microsoft Azure

Results

- Reduced deployment time for new applications down to minutes, freeing up valuable IT resources
- Cut load time for applications by more than 50 percent, from 40 seconds to less than 15 seconds
- Reduced downtime from 1-2 times per week to zero, for increased uptime and application availability, and greater user satisfaction

Delivering a Premium Application Experience for Global Users with Pulse Secure Virtual Traffic Manager

Pernod Ricard is the story of a family business that grew into a global leader in the wine and spirits industry with more than 18,000 employees worldwide. The Group boasts a large portfolio of premium brands, including Absolut, Kahlua, and Jameson. A commitment to ongoing innovation, which allows the Group to quickly adapt to changes in trends, new consumer expectations, and new consumption moments, relies on a foundation of digital transformation to better understand and directly interact with consumers and put forward customized offers, namely through e-commerce opportunities.

Maintaining Agility in a Fast-Paced Industry

As an innovator in a fast-paced and highly competitive industry, Pernod Ricard recognizes that agility is key to maintaining a leadership position. The ability to deploy applications, maintain performance, and ensure availability to users is vital for the organization. Unfortunately, as the organization's needs grew, the expanding complexity of its environment impacted Pernod Ricard's ability to deploy applications quickly and securely.

"New applications were becoming difficult to publish, and we were experiencing downtime several times each week because intranet servers had to be rebooted," explains Maxime Granatini, Group Network and Security

Manager at Pernod Ricard. "This increasing instability was impacting users, and creating a significant burden on IT staff. We needed a load balancing and Web acceleration solution that was easy to deploy and manage on an on-going basis and also has the ability to perform advanced traffic management."

Dramatic Application Performance Acceleration

Pernod Ricard deployed the Pulse Secure Virtual Traffic Manager (vTM) and Pulse Secure Web Accelerator to meet its application performance needs and provide on-going ease of management for IT. The solution was not only easy for IT

staff to learn, it was also easy to teach new IT resources how to leverage the solution moving forward. Ensuring the security of applications was also a priority, and with Pulse Secure, the Group has a floating IP option that enables users to access a secure intranet application in minutes.

Why Pulse Secure

“Today we have a level of agility that we didn’t have prior to Pulse Secure. Before Pulse Secure applications were difficult to publish and complex for users. Now, with the Pulse Secure Virtual Traffic Manager, it’s like having a Swiss Army knife in front of applications with automated application delivery and centralized management that simplifies service deployment and secures applications.”

— Maxime Granatini, Group Network and Security Manager, Pernod Ricard

The Pulse Secure vTM is a fully featured Layer 7 application delivery controller (an advanced load balancer) which enables Pernod Ricard to accelerate services, increase capacity, and reduce costs by offloading performance-limiting tasks including SSL and compression. The software also enables administrators to cache commonly requested content and manage traffic delivery to applications to increase performance. Pernod Ricard also leverages the industry-leading Web

content optimization (WCO) of the Pulse Secure vTM with the Pulse Secure Web Accelerator, a software module that dramatically accelerates Web-based applications and Web sites. This capability dynamically groups activities for fewer long distance round trips, compresses images to reduce bandwidth required, and improves caching for faster repeat visits.

High Performance, Rapid Deployment

“Pulse Secure enabled us to deploy a secure solution capable of providing high performance without creating additional integration or management complexity,” said Granatini. “Our IT staff can perform the advanced traffic management capabilities we need, and yet installation took less than one hour to be up and running—without any downtime or disruption for application users.”

Prior to the Pulse Secure solution, deploying new applications was time consuming, and applications could be complex and frustrating for users to access. For example, an internal finance application accessed via the Group’s intranet could require up to ten servers and for users know specific server names, page names, and country identifiers. In addition to complexity, application load times were lagging, contributing to an unsatisfactory user experience.

“Before Pulse Secure we didn’t have the user experience we wanted with our applications,” Granatini noted. “The Pulse Secure solution created a single

point of entry for users—they just type the URL and they’re in. Users don’t have to know what’s going on behind the scenes, they just have a faster, easier, secure application experience, and with the Pulse Secure Web Accelerator we’ve reduced the load time of applications from 40 seconds to less than 15—that’s an improvement that really contributed to a better user experience.”

Simplified Service Deployment and Secure Applications

As a global organization, Pernod Ricard wanted the flexibility to be able to reshape applications’ Web pages for specific geographies and countries to reach the minimum SLA for performance. With Pulse Secure, IT now has the ability to use a geolocation database that allows them to support remote users when needed. Using traffic scripting that takes minutes to implement, IT can implement conditional acceleration, based upon geolocation, to test and identify improvements in the user experience.

“Today we have a level of agility that we didn’t have prior to Pulse Secure,” Granatini concluded. “Before Pulse Secure applications were difficult to publish and complex for users. Now, with the Pulse Secure Virtual Traffic Manager, it’s like having a Swiss Army knife in front of applications with automated application delivery and centralized management that simplifies service deployment and secures applications.”

For more information, visit www.pulsesecure.net.

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