



PowerTech Compliance Monitor helps Fortune 500 medical device company secure multiple servers.

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Stryker Corporation (NYSE: SYK), founded in 1941, is one of the preeminent medical products and services companies in the world. A Fortune 500 company, and listed in Fortune's Most Admired Companies in Medical Products and Equipment, Stryker has 17,000 employees worldwide.

Challenge

Gavin Inman serves as interdivisional database administrator for Stryker Medical and Stryker Instruments, the Kalamazoo, Michigan, divisions of the company. Stryker operates its numerous divisions independently, allowing each to decide how best to serve its specific customers. The two Kalamazoo divisions share two iSeries machines, one with four partitions and the other with two. The iSeries machines support manufacturing operations by running business-critical applications, including a J.D. Edwards ERP system, accounts payable/receivable, general ledger, customer service, manufacturing systems, shipping/receiving and data storage.

Inman started looking at security solutions at the prompting of internal auditors. "We had corporate internal auditors telling us we needed to be compliant with a whole list of specifications. This was also necessary to help us prepare for external audits," explained Inman.

Network security and audit reporting tools were the most critical components. At that time, Inman's team was relying on homegrown administrator reports, which had no process for change control or validation. The auditors told them that wasn't good enough. "We started looking at all the different products, and we looked at two others besides PowerTech very seriously," said Inman. "We factored in functionality, price, length of time the product had been around, and even where the product was going. We didn't want to buy a product and find out it's not being actively developed anymore."

QUICK FACTS

For Stryker, PowerTech's security products delivered:

- Quick and easy deployment and configuration
- Ability to meet auditor requirements
- Cost savings of more than 50 percent compared to updating homegrown tools
- Compliance solution more up-to-date and effective than competing products

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Gavin Inman, Interdivisional Database Administrator

Solution

At the end of his evaluation, Inman chose a suite of PowerTech security products: Compliance Monitor, Authority Broker and Network Security. “PowerTech seemed to be the most proactive on the new requirements and compliance laws,” he explained. “They seemed to be more up-to-date on these requirements and they developed their software to match them.”

Compliance Monitor was the primary PowerTech differentiator. Inman felt that PowerTech had really done its homework, designing the product specifically to address the most current compliance requirements. He also liked that Compliance Monitor was easy to use and customizable. “The other solutions had basically taken their current product and slapped on reports,” he said.

Another of the auditors’ requirements was to introduce tighter controls on administrative access, and Inman said his team knew Authority Broker was what they needed as soon as they saw it. While they originally viewed all the network security products they looked at as comparable, they quickly moved beyond how they had originally planned to use PowerTech Network Security, expanding it into areas such as troubleshooting performance problems related to ODBC access.

Results

Inman found the PowerTech products quick to install and easy to use. “We were able to get the product installed and up and running quickly, and we were able to start producing reports right away,” he said. The greatest benefit of the PowerTech security solution is it allows the two Stryker divisions to breathe a sigh of relief that they are meeting auditor requirements.

A more easily measurable cost savings was the fact that Inman’s team was facing integrating authentication and change control into their homegrown reports, which he says would have cost them double what they paid for the PowerTech solution.