



STORMSHIELD

PORT BOULOGNE CALAIS

A HIGH-PERFORMANCE SOLUTION TO MEET EVER-INCREASING NEEDS

Interview with Frédéric Leblond, IT systems and security manager



1st

FRENCH PASSENGER PORT



1st

FRENCH FISHING PORT



250

WORKPLACES

Port Boulogne Calais

This port group is the French and European leader in the cross-channel maritime transport and fishing sectors.

The Port of Boulogne-sur-Mer is France's leading fishing port in terms of tonnage (36,000 tonnes per annum). For its part, Calais is France's leading passenger port and Europe's second-largest Ro-Ro port (roll on-roll off). It handles a third of the maritime vehicular freight between continental Europe and the United Kingdom.

Each year, almost 10 million passengers, 44 million tonnes of merchandise and 2 million heavy goods vehicles pass through the port facilities on the Dover/Calais ferry route.

Background

As part of the Public Service Delegation granted by the Hauts de France region, on 22 July 2015 the ports of Boulogne-sur-Mer and Calais became the "Port Boulogne Calais" unitary port authority. This ports group is the French and European leader in the cross-channel maritime transport and fishing sectors.

A zone subject to a high degree of surveillance by its very definition, this organisation has introduced appropriate physical and IT security solutions (including Internet perimeter security and the segmentation of VLANs). These measures also ensure compliance with regulatory obligations.

Before the "Calais Port 2015" project, the team with responsibility for IT security used the U250 model of Netasq firewalls. After finding that its resources were quickly saturated, the port of Calais took the decision to migrate to another solution. This solution needed to be able to effectively meet its constantly increasing requirements and to adapt to a network which would undergo modification after 2015.

The solution of choice

A long-standing client of Netasq technologies, Port Boulogne Calais chose the Stormshield Network Security (SNS) product which, like all products in the range, offers some of the highest certification levels in the market, (including NATO, EU RESTRICTED and ANSSI qualification and visa).

"This merger of the two ports provided the perfect opportunity to move to a more robust product offering higher performance, one which could link the two sites and pool certain items of equipment and, more recently, Internet access. Before this merger, Boulogne's and Calais' characteristics differed both in terms of equipment and activities", explained IT Systems and Security Manager Frédéric Leblond.

In 2015, to ensure the protection of the office networks of the different units, Port Boulogne Calais therefore deployed a cluster of Stormshield SN2000 firewalls.

A logical decision and migration, partly because Frédéric Leblond is an expert in Netasq solutions and has undertaken training at Stormshield as well as participating in a UX day.

“With the support of a local partner, the migration process posed no particular problems. Although the Stormshield product is new, it nevertheless resembles what we had before. But that’s where the comparisons end. We particularly like the fluidity between the networks and the sheer power of the SN2000. Its operation speed is very impressive. This is a major benefit in our day-to-day work as among other things we carry out SSL decryption, URL filtering and manage several VPN IPSec tunnels”, adds Frédéric Leblond.

Automatic rights management

With a speed of up to 30 Gbps, the SN2000 offers the best price/performance ratio in the market and a high level of traffic security: two million active sessions and 5000 VPN IPSec tunnels created at the same time... This provides undeniable peace of mind for professionals.

“This solution can meet all of our requirements without affecting the bandwidth and the resources: very little memory is used and the CPU is stable...”, explained Frédéric Leblond.

The IT Systems Security Manager added that the SNS solution has been connected to their Active Directory. **“The management of users’ access rights has been reinforced and this is now handled automatically. A new workstation can be added immediately and the Internet connection is instantaneous”**, continued Frédéric Leblond, appreciatively.

The Stormshield Network Security console enables him to have an overview of the situation and in particular of alerts. **“On this particular point, we have installed the Stormshield Visibility Center. This solution provides a unified view of security**

events from all product lines. It gives us a 360° overview of the security situation with our infrastructure and data. Although we don’t use it every day, the intuitive insights provided by the Stormshield Visibility Center enable us to quickly identify any behaviour and incidents of particular interest to us. This solution is extremely helpful when it comes to precisely locating information rather than searching through the product’s logs for it”, explains the IT Systems Security Manager.

Locating incident-related details more easily

Stormshield Visibility Center’s filtering and sorting functions guarantee optimal search quality. It is therefore very easy to focus on a specific period or a particular event to obtain more information about it.

Finally, Stormshield Network Security provides access to traceability information and reports compliant with the GDPR (the General Data Protection Regulation covering personal data), and makes it possible to store items of proof and carry out archiving in a legally compliant manner.

To further improve data security and privacy, Port Boulogne Calais is now considering data encryption. The deployment of Stormshield Data Security (SDS) is consequently being envisaged.



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Stormshield, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Airbus CyberSecurity, offers innovative, end-to-end security solutions for the protection of IT networks (Stormshield Network Security), workstations (Stormshield Endpoint Security) and data (Stormshield Data Security).

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