

iSecurity Case Study

The IRSAP Group in Italy relies on Raz-Lee and discovers...iSecurity

The IRSAP Group (<http://www.irsap.it/>) is the Italian leader, and one of major European suppliers, of interior heating and climate-control systems.

In preparation for the Italian Privacy Act (<http://www.privacy.it/privacycode-en.html>), the IRSAP Group decided in the middle of 2009 to implement security and data protection for their IBM Power i systems by purchasing Raz-Lee's iSecurity "Logs User Control" package consisting of Firewall, Audit and Assessment.

Mr. Marco Broetto, Head of Information Systems at IRSAP Group, describes below the considerations and benefits realized by implementing these solutions.

Choosing the Solution

Q: What was the business need which drove your search for a security, auditing and compliance solution?

A: We wanted to implement the best security, auditing and compliance solution on the market in order to become compatible with the Italian Privacy Act, which became effective on December 15, 2009.

Given the tight deadlines for meeting the compliance requirements, we stressed simplicity but also the completeness and reliability of the proposed solution. What was also of utmost importance was 100% coverage of ALL our company's security requirements.

Q: What considerations influenced the internal processes for the software selection process? What key elements were considered?

A: As the compliance deadline of December 15 2009, we were literally bombarded with proposals by many companies regarding their solutions; in the end, Raz-Lee's total focus on the IBM i was a major factor in our choice of their products.

Q: Why did you choose iSecurity? What key elements and special features convinced IRSAP to adopt Raz-Lee's solution?

A: We chose iSecurity because, unlike competitive products, iSecurity does not only provide facilities for tracking the System Administrator's logs, but also has the ability to monitor and protect application-related security data.

The Firewall solution, part of the "Logs User Control " package, enabled us to manage a range of security aspects. For example, at this time iSecurity checks all user accesses made via ODBC, FTP and similar protocols and file UPDATES made by using ODBC. By defining to Firewall a special-purpose group consisting of specific IRSAP companies, our system administrators can much more efficiently control user access to all companies in the group.

In addition, using Firewall we also control from which locations and from what addresses within our company a user logs in, because we generate a device name based upon the IP address.

Installation & Implementation

Q: How long did the implementation take, including the integration into your existing infrastructure?

A: The implementation period was really quick and the integration was completely transparent with all our applications. The actual time it took us to be compliant with the Italian Privacy Act and to configure and implement Firewall as needed was about 2 days.

Q: Who uses iSecurity? Can you describe the purpose of project?

A: iSecurity is managed by our Information Systems group: Audit is used to investigate and store System Administrator's access logs and Firewall is used to control and lock user's access to the IBM i databases.

Q: How does your company use iSecurity?

A: Once the product was implemented, all that the system administrators need to do is simply review network access attempts and, over time, to integrate new requirements and security rules into the Firewall product.

Benefits and Achievements

Q: What productivity benefits did your company obtain by using iSecurity?

A: The result was immediately apparent; just a few days after installation and implementation we achieved compliance of our information systems with the new regulations.

Certainly the most significant benefit is the protection from unauthorized network access to the IBM i data bases. This is not limited to access from the external network, for which all companies have security products, but especially from within the organization, in particular from a disappointed employee or ex-employee.

Q: Is your company planning to implement other iSecurity solutions?

A: Yes, we have expressed interest in other products, for example Action which sends real-time Syslog, SNMP, e-mail, MSGQ, SMS alerts when potential security breaches occur.

About IRSAP Group

IRSAP SPA was founded in 1963 and specializes in heating and climate-control systems such as radiators. In 1967 the company began producing tubular steel radiators which were then completely new products in the Italian market. The company continue to grow and took numerous important steps such as the presentation in 1981 of the first bathroom radiator towel warmers in Italy.



IRSAP Group is an Italian-based company with a multi-national presence including overseas production facilities, all managed by ISO 9001 systems quality certificates. The company's sales staff includes 1,200 employees. The Group's power is in its ability to integrate real-world customer experiences from different disciplines, optimizing the specific skills and providing integrated solutions in all relevant areas.

About Raz-Lee Security

Raz-Lee Security has specialized in IBM AS/400 (Power i) solutions since 1983, and is recognized as one of the leading providers of security, auditing and compliance solutions. Raz-Lee has distributors worldwide and customers in more than 40 countries.

Raz-Lee Security in Italy specializes in Business Development for the Southern European, with in-depth knowledge of the local market needs and with the ability to provide timely technical support to all local clients.

Corporate headquarters, which is predominantly focused on Research and Development, is based Israel; the company is also registered in New York, where it has an office and in Delaware.

Collaboration with IBM

Raz-Lee is a Premier IBM Business Partner, a member of PartnerWorld and has attained IBM's "Server Proven" certification. Raz-Lee works in close conjunction with the IBM i development labs in Rochester, Minnesota and with IBM marketing and sales organizations in numerous countries worldwide.

iSecurity and approximately 20 iSecurity solutions can be found at IBM's website, for example at:
<http://www-304.ibm.com/partnerworld/gsd/solutiondetails.do?&solution=11457&lc=en>

IBM Italy's selection of iSecurity™ as part of IBM's Smart Business solutions, was a direct result of the seamless integration of iSecurity within IBM's overall Server Consolidation strategy on the i.