



Dmitry Safronov,
Head of Information Security,
VGTRK

COMPANY PROFILE

- + Industry:** Media and Broadcast
- + Broadcasting Operations:** Almost 100 regional, national and international channels on Radio & TV
- + Internet Operations:** Dozens of websites including live streaming broadcasts for multiple TV stations such as news channel Russia 24 and Russia's leading sports site sportbox.ru
- + Reach:** 300m+ total visitors per year to all VGTRK websites. Sportbox.ru attracts 5.5m unique users per month



MEDIA CORPORATION VGTRK PROTECTS ITS OLYMPICS COVERAGE WITH POSITIVE TECHNOLOGIES APPLICATION FIREWALL™

THE CHALLENGE

Protect dozens of TV and online radio applications offering live online coverage of the Sochi Winter Olympics to 220 thousand viewers

As one of the host broadcasters for the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, VGTRK provided in-depth coverage of all Olympic events across its TV and Radio channels. The company promised its audiences that for the first time they would be able to watch every event live either on TV or online, generating up to 75 hours of coverage per day. This coverage was to be streamed online to users on PCs, mobile devices and Smart TVs across more than two dozen dedicated online applications as well as its existing news and sports web portals. With viewers hungry for continuous event coverage and so much attention on the Olympics, VGTRK could not afford interruptions to its web and mobile services.

"We realized our existing approach to application security wasn't giving us the early-warning we needed to take action against unfolding attacks to ensure availability of our broadcasts," says Dmitry Safronov, VGTRK's Head of Information Security. "We needed a solution that would identify incidents immediately so we could quickly respond to threats in real-time."

"We knew the games would see a huge amount of traffic during the most popular events, so we needed a solution that could seamlessly handle very high demand," adds Dmitry. "And it had to support applications built with various technologies."

THE SOLUTION

Positive Technologies Application Firewall™

VGTRK selected their long-time cybersecurity partner, Positive Technologies to solve this very difficult application security challenge. PT Application Firewall™ was deployed to protect two dozen dedicated web applications for Sochi 2014 as well as existing portals including Sportbox.ru and Vesti.ru, websites for the company's news channel Russia 24 and the applications. Between them, these applications comprise technologies ranging from websites and interactive services to XML tunnels and broadcast platforms.

Most of the sites featured replays of Olympic highlights as well as live streaming video in Flash or HTTP Live Streaming (HLS) formats that adapted on the fly to match the bandwidth of a user's particular device. Viewing figures peaked during an ice hockey match on February 13th as more than 220-thousand simultaneous visitors to VGTRK websites watched the home side triumph 5-2 over Slovenia.

The high-profile of the Olympics drew great interest from attackers of all skill levels. VGTRK's on-line applications needed to withstand constant pressure from thousands of various cyber-attacks including the use of bots and scans, to verify vulnerabilities and protect personal information. With so much data and so many attacks, it is very easy for a security manager to lose sight of the security alerts from the defense systems. Intelligent capabilities within PT Application Firewall™, such as a built-in DAST engine, for automatic verification of vulnerabilities, event correlation and the ability to construct attack chains as they develop, helped to reduce the load of the security operation managers from thousands of attacks per day to only a few hundred.

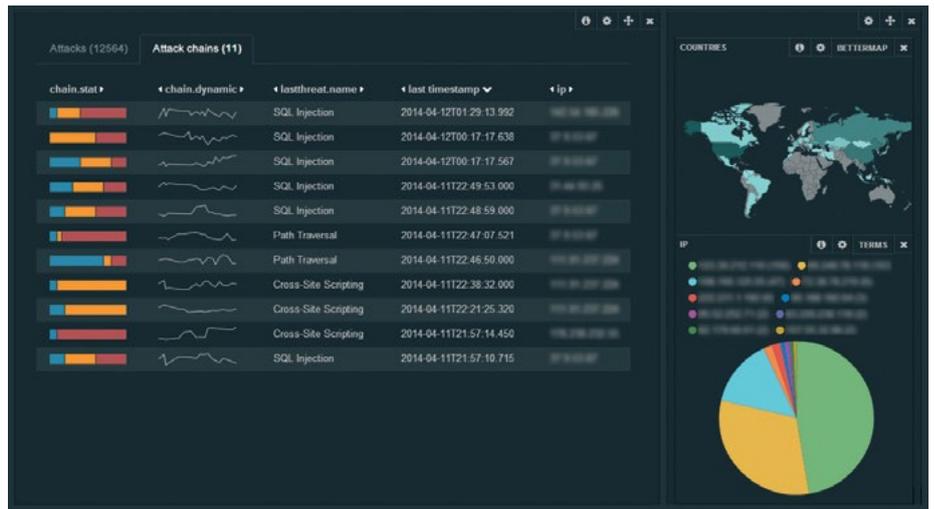
In addition to its own built-in features, PT Application Firewall's integration with SIEM helped to centralize security data from various sources within the company's Security Operations Center (SOC).

“The early-warnings from Application Firewall have made a big difference to our security.”

**Dmitry Safronov,
Head of Information
Security, VGTRK**

HIGHLIGHTS

- + Assured continuous broadcast coverage by detecting threats early
- + Seamlessly handled high volumes of traffic, with data rates of over 5GB per second and over 220-thousand simultaneous visitors
- + Protected different types of applications that used various programming languages and technologies



PT Application Firewall™ Attack Chaining

THE BENEFITS

Provide early warning of attacks, handle traffic peaks and assure continuous coverage

PT Application Firewall™ has given VGTRK's IT Security team a new line of defense against hackers who seek to disrupt the company's consumer web applications or use them as a route to breaching the organization's internal network.

By alerting VGTRK to incidents as they first develop, PT Application Firewall™ enabled swift action to be taken to shut down attacks before they could harm the business. In the first month of operation alone, PT Application Firewall™ detected dangerous attacks on thirteen separate web applications, including one incident that could have resulted in a significant data breach.

“The early-warnings from Application Firewall have made a big difference to our security,” says Dmitry Safronov. “They have allowed us to make changes to system configurations and stop attacks before they get too far. Olympics coverage was a high priority business objective and PT Application Firewall™ helped us ensure that our customers could enjoy the events uninterrupted. We will be using PT Application Firewall™ to protect web apps in the future.”

About Positive Technologies

Positive Technologies is a leading global provider of enterprise security solutions for vulnerability and compliance management, incident and threat analysis, and application protection. Commitment to clients and research has earned Positive Technologies a reputation as one of the foremost authorities on Industrial Control System, Banking, Telecom, Web Application, and ERP security, supported by recognition from the analyst community. Learn more about Positive Technologies at ptsecurity.com.

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