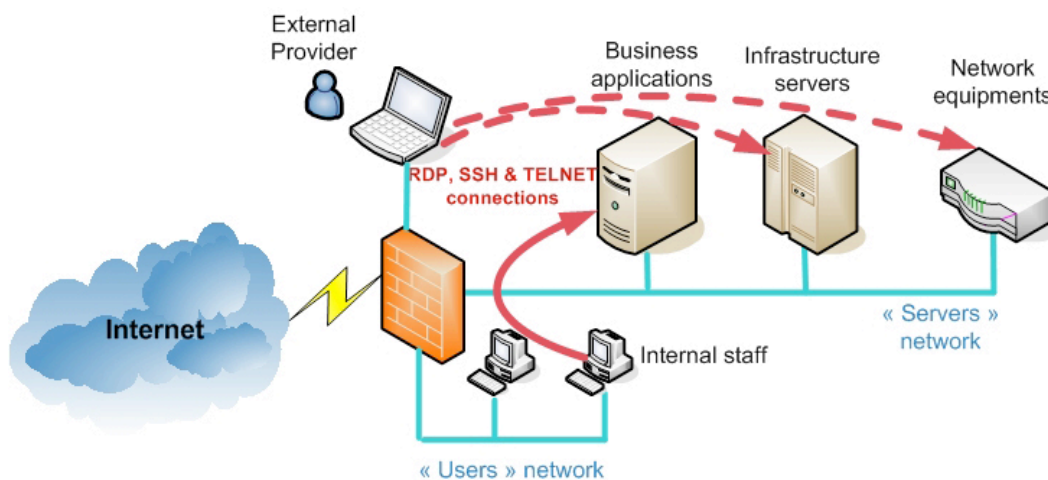


Case study **Beauvais Town Hall, France**

Background

The Beauvais Town Hall, administering 60 000 inhabitants and the prefecture of Oise, France – internationally known thanks to its International low-cost airport – has an IT system based primarily on a Windows and Unix/Linux server infrastructure.

Led by the IS Director, the overall information System, servers – and the corresponding applications – are administered by a team of 10 internal administrators together with external service providers in charge of maintaining certain areas such as business applications administration (e.g. the payroll software) and facilities (e.g. heating and ventilation systems).



Requirements

Following the overhaul of its IT system, Beauvais Town Hall wished to implement a solution that would enable the actions of system and network administrators to be audited and concentrate access at a single point to improve control over connections.

The solution had to be able to control administrators' access to three types of device:

- Business application servers
- Infrastructure servers (Active Directory, firewalls, DNS server)
- Network infrastructure equipment (switches and routers)

The access control required concerned two types of user:

- External service providers (connecting to business application servers)
- Staff within the town hall (connecting to all types of equipment).

The solution also had to enable administrators to log in from outside the town hall. However, to avoid affecting the security of the IT system, the following constraints were imposed by the IT team:

- no direct access to the servers
- each service provider must only be able to access a few specific applications
- it should only be possible to connect during a time period specified in advance (e.g. Wednesday between 6 and 10 p.m.)
- the operations carried out by the administrator must be tracked very precisely, going beyond the information already contained in the application or server logs

- the solution must not require the installation of any new software (or agents) on the servers, or the use of specific software on the workstations used by the administrators
- the administrators' working habits must not be affected.

Solution

Following a tender call, the Beauvais Town hall selected and implemented the Wallix AdminBastion (WAB) solution. Located in the DMZ, the solution, based on an authenticating proxy, fulfilled all the customer's needs.

Requirements	Solutions
No direct access to the servers	WAB operates in "proxy" mode – there is no direct connection between the user and the target equipment
Each service provider must only be able to access a few specific applications	WAB has user-level access control, enabling the servers each individual user can access to be defined precisely
It should only be possible to connect during a time period specified in advance	WAB can define authorised timeslots for each administrator
The operations carried out by the administrator must be tracked very precisely	WAB logs all connections (who logged in, where and for how long), but it can also record what happens during the connection in the form of a video file.
The solution must not require the installation of any new software (or agents) on the servers, or the use of specific software on the workstations used by the administrators	WAB does not require agents to be installed on the target servers, or specific software on workstations
Administrators' working habits must not be affected	Server administration will continue to use the same tools (e.g. RDP client for Windows servers, PuTTY for Unix and Linux servers)

Nicolas Shockaert, IT Security manager at Beauvais town council, states, *"With this solution, which provides us with many services, all our needs are met and, in two years, we have had no negative recurrence."*

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