



Hamilton Advokatbyrå

A mobile and highly secure solution for lawyers

Legal Services | Remote Access | AppGate

hamilton



“The AppGate solution has performed excellently. With the solution in place, we’re able to access critical business information and delicate client information remotely from smart-phones, which saves us a lot of time.”

Thomas Nygren
Partner and Chairman
Hamilton Advokatbyrå



Background

Hamilton Advokatbyrå, a full-service corporate and commercial law firm, was established in Stockholm in 1964. Today the company is one of the largest law firms in Sweden with 90 lawyers employed in offices in Sweden and the UK. Since its inception, the firm has been committed towards providing first class legal services to clients, offering not only the combined knowledge and experience of their lawyers, but also the ability to respond quickly to clients' needs. To ensure they maintained this high quality of service as the firm expanded in Sweden and internationally, lawyers needed a secure method for accessing information when working remotely from clients' offices or even from home.

So the company started to look for an IT network solution that would support all their needs for flexibility and security, and also user friendliness and cost-effectiveness.

Requirement

Flexibility was a primary requirement for Hamilton. Most of the company's data and information was stored in a mainframe computer at the head office. However, lawyers needed to be able to access that information when traveling, participating in meetings, working from home offices, or working from satellite offices, for example in London.

In addition, lawyers used a variety of mobile devices. So the system needed to provide access from desktop and laptop systems, PDAs and mobile phones, and be able to connect via broadband, WLAN and 3G cards.

The other key requirement was for security. It was vital to retain customer confidence and trust, so the solution needed to ensure that all information remained secure and the network was protected from unauthorized access.

Solution

The network security solution AppGate from Cryptzone provided a comprehensive, easy-to-manage system that met all Hamilton's requirements and solved several problems with just one solution. An AppGate Security Server was installed in the main office, behind the company firewall. The AppGate server was then connected to application servers through port forwards, providing access to facilities such as the Windows terminal server and Windows Exchange for email.

For the team of lawyers, the AppGate solution ensures they are able to connect to the main office regardless of their location or the mobile device that they wish to use. The AppGate client software allows them to access critical information via a desktop PC, a laptop, PDA or mobile phone; and email is available on their laptops and other mobile devices ensuring they can keep in touch when traveling.

“The AppGate solution has performed excellently”, said Thomas Nygren, Partner and Chairman of Hamilton Advokatbyrå. “We believe that we have a great competitive advantage in having secure access to our law-firm's servers wherever we are.”

From the company's perspective, the system provides secure protection for all data and applications. Lawyers working from home use laptops and home desktops with the AppGate

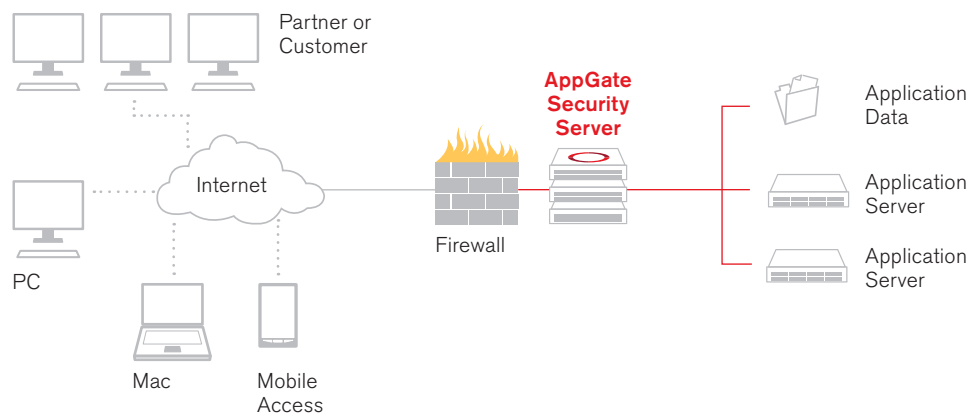
"Another advantage we saw in the AppGate solution was the compatibility with Terminal Services, which enabled us to improve control over clients' confidential information"

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Personal Firewall installed with centrally managed rule-sets. "Another advantage we saw in the AppGate solution", added Thomas, "was the compatibility with Terminal Services, which enabled us to improve control over clients' confidential information."

The flexibility of the AppGate solution has ensured that smaller remote offices, such as the one in London, can easily connect to the network without the need for a leased line or

IP-SEC VPN solution. The AppGate solution is now the de-facto means for these remote offices to connect to head office systems. To underpin the company's reliance on AppGate, the solution has been configured to include two clustered AppGate Security Servers, ensuring high availability of the network for the whole team.



Tips and Tricks

Hamilton's remote offices rely entirely on the AppGate Security Server for access to the corporate systems, so availability is a key issue.

The AppGate Security Server supports clustering for high availability. User connections are automatically load balanced across the units according to a predetermined ratio. However, if one server should fail then all the users will be directed to the remaining good unit(s) automatically as they connect.

AppGate clusters scale almost linearly – a cluster of 4 units (which is the practical limit) would give about 4 times the performance.

An added benefit is that a cluster can support multiple/different ISP connections, so if one ISP should fail then the same fail-over process would apply.



Cryptzone solutions mitigate information security risks in the key areas of Policy Compliance, Content Security, Secure Access and Endpoint Security.

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