



UK Police Authority

AppGate delivers mobile secure access solution

Government and Defence | Secure Application Access | AppGate

"Cryptzone's AppGate network security solution enables authorized officers to access police databases and applications securely from laptop computers in police vehicles."

The system should be easy and intuitive to use to allow officers to concentrate on their work



As well as providing secure remote access to authorized officers, the system needed to prevent unauthorized access

Background

Police officers out on patrol need to be able to access information from crime files and intelligence databases quickly in order to make decisions about any actions they need to take. However, as police database services and applications have become more complex, providing officers with fast and effective remote access has become more challenging.

A UK police authority initiated a mobile working program that included equipping squad cars with mobile-enabled laptop computers. The requirement was for a mobile solution that would not only provide secure access to data sources such as ELVIS (the stolen vehicle information system) and the PVH handbook, but also support advanced applications such as the Corvus intelligence database that uses a highly graphical user interface, and also support teams such as crime scene investigators who need to upload photographs and complex data to the network directly from the crime scene.

The Challenge

The challenge for the project team was to find a solution that would not only provide secure access to essential data and applications, but also operate reliably from a moving squad car. Traditional SSL VPN products did not provide all the necessary functionality – the team needed to find a new system that could provide a reliable yet secure tool that police officers would be able to use at any time, even when on the move.

Roaming capability: The remote access solution would need to be capable of operating from a fast moving squad car, maintaining access to the network even when the car moved between mobile cells.

Fast and easy to use: The system should be easy and intuitive to use to allow officers

to concentrate on their work rather than negotiating a complex login procedure or trying to remember how to access a particular application.

Secure: As well as providing secure remote access to authorized officers, the system needed to prevent unauthorized access, in particular by locking down the laptop in the event of the device being stolen.

The Solution

The IT project team identified that AppGate network security solution from the Cryptzone Group would deliver the functionality required and provide a truly mobile solution for the police authority.

Secure mobile device: The AppGate client software is deployed on the user machines providing the ability to connect to AppGate Security Server installed behind the network firewall. To transform each laptop into a secure access point the customer currently uses BeCrypt's Trusted Client Portable solution.

The operating system is pre-loaded onto the laptop hard-drive and when the machine boots up it automatically creates a secure and trusted environment for the AppGate client to execute. AppGate Security Server checks the mobile device for compliance with key criteria before access is granted so only those devices that have the Trusted Client environment installed can be used.

Network security: Multiple authentication factors are used to increase security. Access to the laptop requires the Officer's electronic warrant card to be plugged into a card reader in the laptop. The authentication chain also includes validation by the BeCrypt Trusted Client, checking of certificates, login by the officer's certificate to the AppGate Security Server, and eDirectory authentication. While

"Once the laptop is connected to the network, built-in roaming capability ensures that the connection is maintained even when the squad car is on the move."

"Strong user authentication prevents unauthorized access to the network and IT administrators can control exactly which applications each officer can use. The laptops are automatically locked down when not in use."

"Cryptzone's AppGate system delivers high security and fast speed of response ensuring that officers can access the information they need promptly."

these multiple layers could potentially slow down access to online services, AppGate's Chained Authentication feature streamlines the authentication process to make it as fast as possible.

The AppGate client prompts for all the required authentication data to be entered in the first dialog – the data is verified at the login stage so the user can access applications instantly when they are needed without having to enter a password every time.

Easy to use: The graphical user interface makes the AppGate client easy to use requiring virtually no user training. A dialog box prompts the officer to log in and after successful authentication, he/she can immediately start using services from the protected network. When the officer's warrant card is removed from the laptop, the connection to the AppGate Security Server is immediately terminated. To reconnect, the officer just needs to login to the AppGate client.

Full roaming capability: When the squad car is on the move, AppGate's built-in mobile VPN roaming functionality automatically reconnects to the AppGate Security Server if the connection is dropped or if the mobile device switches from one network to another.

Fast performance: AppGate uses the most efficient standard protocols and data compression to reduce the number of data packets transmitted, and to ensure efficient use of bandwidth. This significantly increases performance over mobile network links and enables advanced, data intensive applications to run over standard bandwidth connections. The result is a very good user experience. Officers have reported that the system delivers an impressive speed of response with AppGate integrated into the network, taking just three minutes from switching on the laptop to running applications!

Benefits

Strong security

Using FIPS 140-2 encryption, all traffic is encrypted between the server and the endpoint devices ensuring all data is protected including username and password.

Chained authentication

AppGate supports a wide range of authentication methods and can streamline the log in process to ensure the best user experience.

Mobile VPN Roaming

The laptop device is reconnected to the network automatically if the mobile connection is dropped or if it switches from one network to another, even if the device gets a new IP address.

Support for all applications and services

IP tunneling and data compression enables AppGate to tunnel any protocol or application and support advanced, data intensive applications over standard bandwidth connections. So officers can have remote access to all the services they need.

Easy to use, easy to manage

The intuitive user interface makes it quick and easy for officers to use. Administrators have central control of security policies, user administration, user access and reporting.

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

International Headquarters

Cryptzone Group AB
Drakegatan 7,
SE-412 50 Gothenburg,
Sweden

www.cryptzone.com
info@cryptzone.com

Regional Offices

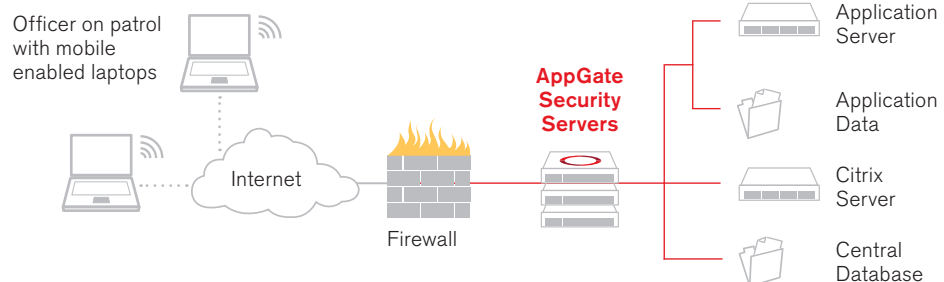
Sweden
Tel: +46 (0)31 773 86 00

United States
Tel: +1.949.279.6177

United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)370 013 1600

Partner information:

For more information go to
www.cryptzone.com/partners



Microsoft Partner

Gold Independent Software Vendor (ISV)