

ANSecurity, a specialist in advanced network and data security, has announced a successful project with East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust, to upgrade its secure access capabilities. This has led to a 30 per cent reduction in costs associated with software licensing and management overheads.

Serving a community of approximately 525,000 people across East Sussex, the Trust is one of the largest organisations in the county employing over 6,000 dedicated staff with an annual turnover of £365 million. With increased use of information technology systems for both clinical and administrative tasks, the Trust has seen a steady rise in requests for secure remote access, which its legacy solution had struggled to address.

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Dan Lloyd, Senior Infrastructure Engineer at East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust, says: "We did not feel that our legacy solution and managed service was able to address our growing secure access requirements.

"In addition to that, it was assessed that an upgrade would allow us to make considerable saving in ongoing charges along with use of more self-service tools, for user on-boarding and maintenance, that would provide additional cost savings in terms of management time, without compromising security."

After examining a number of options, the Trust approached ANSecurity for guidance on developing a new secure access solution. Working in partnership using ANSecurity's 'Co-Driver' approach, the Trust's IT department and teams from ANSecurity managed different aspects of the end to end solution including the design phase, implementation with additional steps such as failover testing, configuration management, bespoke training and support in meeting NHS security compliance requirements.

The project included upgrading its VPN infrastructure to new Pulse Secure 'Connect Secure' appliances to cope with a larger number of users accessing services, using a wider range of devices.

Upgraded system cuts NHS costs

ANSecurity has helped East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust upgrade secure access to reduce costs and complexity





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This upgrade included the enablement of a number of secure self-service tools to simplify access for guests along with easier moves, adds and changes for existing users. The new solution uses active device scanning prior to connection to the Trust’s network, to ensure that devices have the correct updates and patches before they are given access to sensitive applications. The next stage upgraded its existing two factor authentication solution; to use a smartphone based App, that further reduced management overheads associated with handling physical two factor authentication tokens.

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Lloyd says: “The project has delivered against our expectations and we estimate that it will achieve cost savings of around 30 per cent compared to our legacy solution, in respect to our secure access requirements. ANSecurity has been with us across every step of the process and provided us with expert guidance and practical

support, and the end result is a securer and easier to manage environment that is able to scale in line with our needs.”

ANSecurity is a specialist in securing networks and protecting data that helps some of the largest organisations in the UK and global brands to reduce risk and simplify operational management. In fact, the 10 largest ANSecurity clients have aggregate annual turnover in excess of £780 billion, employ over 779,000 staff and include top three players in the fields of financial services, retail and logistics. Public sector customers include local and central government, schools and colleges, police forces and the NHS.

It is made up of subject matter experts that are focused on solutions and not just specific brands. This independence is maintained by ongoing certification and accreditation with over 32 leaders in secure information technologies including market stalwarts and innovative start-ups.

“But our ethos recognises that technology by itself is not enough to create world class security processes that reduce risk. As such we offer consulting services to help our customers architect mature security methodologies and educational services to help them develop the skills needed to strengthen security from within.

“As we celebrate our 13th year of double digit growth, ANSecurity will continue to build both point and end-to-end solutions that protect our customers’ networks and businesses while continually expanding our knowledge to meet the evolving IT security challenge.” ■

Contact details

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