Case Study: Riga
International Airport

Client: RIGA International Airport

The largest international aviation company in the Baltics and the main air traffic centre in this region offering regular passenger, cargo and postal delivery to the cities of Europe and the world.

Business Problem

The client's foremost challenge was that they were losing an overview of access rights and were unable to track changes to permissions as they occur.

Solutions

8MAN - the principal solution developed by Protected Networks, Germany. It is a fully integrated software for the management of Active Directory, file server and SharePoint access rights. Limit access rights to a 'need to know' basis thereby significantly reducing data security risks. Ensure accountability and compliance with internal policies by knowing who accessed which files.

8MAN: Key Benefits

Within just a few months, the client realized several benefits of deploying 8MAN's SharePoint capabilities, such as:

• Customizable views
• Visible entitlements
• Intuitive interface.

"8MAN's features are helping us work much faster and our SharePoint farm is now much more secure"

About the client

RIGA International Airport is the largest international aviation company in the Baltics and the main air traffic centre in this region offering regular passenger, cargo and postal delivery to the cities of Europe and world. The shareholder of the state stock company is the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia. The RIGA International Airport renders both aviation (airplane, passenger and cargo attendance) and non-aviation services (leasing, parking spaces, VIP centre services, etc.). It attends both national and international airlines becoming one of the few European airports which offer both - full service and low costs airlines.

Business Challenges

RIGA Airport is one the busiest and fastest growing international airports in the Baltics. In order to allow their people and teams to effectively connect and collaborate amidst multiplying data, they have deployed Microsoft SharePoint as their primary file storage and sharing hub. Although a robust and dynamic file-sharing tool, SharePoint presented several challenges, proving barriers to team productivity and general data security.

Access file structure permissions in SharePoint environments are highly complex in configuration and usage. Their review and proper assignment can be fairly arduous and time-consuming. As the efficiency and success of SharePoint depends largely on the permissions structure, its deployment can often spiral out of control if permissions are not managed accurately. These permissions are categorized as list permissions, site permissions, and personal permissions, depending upon the objects to which they can be applied, furthermore several permissions are dependent on other permissions, which adds to the complexity of overall management. Any oversight in managing these permissions can have a detrimental impact on data security – this was the biggest concern of the client's IT team.

The client's foremost challenge was that they were losing an overview of access rights and unable to track changes to permissions as they occur. They were looking for a solution to eliminate data security threats and improve overall governance by preventing unwarranted access rights from increasing.

WHY 8MAN?

Information trust software, 8MAN is the flagship solution offered by protected-networks.com, aimed to promote a secure assignment of access rights and assist in the detection of existing risks. The solution performs centralised auditing not only within file servers and Active Directory, but across SharePoint farms. 8MAN's SharePoint functionality provides detailed historical data on permission rights and thereby eliminates security gaps. With 8MAN, SharePoint permissions can be reviewed in context and displayed in a visually intuitive and concise manner, which makes it possible, to develop robust role-based access procedures and implementing an efficient access management process. Most site admins struggle with SharePoint due to its inherent complexities and multiple permission options but with 8MAN they can obtain customizable views displaying permissions structure in a clear and transparent manner.

Key Benefits

Within just a few months, the client has realized various benefits of deploying 8MAN's SharePoint capabilities.

"With 8MAN's data owner concept and 8MAN SharePoint we can finally see who really has which rights to SharePoint sites and items - traditionally impossible for data owners or other software." – Aldis Ešmits, Head of IT service unit at Riga International airport.

Easy to use and understand, the solution provides customizable views to visualize each relationship and grouping. The client is using 8MAN to determine user rights and permissions with SharePoint services in their network. 8MAN also provides role-based access and information on historical data, making it easy to track which permissions existed at a given time when a certain change was performed.

An overview of how 8MAN is currently supporting the client's requirement:

Security:
- Improved internal security by providing a transparent overview and full reporting of access rights on file servers, SharePoint and Active Directory.

Customizable views:
- Provides customizable views to visualize each relationship and grouping.

Visible entitlements:
- With 8MAN's data owner concept and 8MAN SharePoint you can finally see who really has which rights to SharePoint sites and items.

Intuitive interface:
- 8MAN SharePoint provides an easy, intuitive interface to keep SharePoint permissions in order.

- All permissions across multiple levels at a glance, whether the query relates to a Site Collection with wikis or across multiple SharePoint farms.

- The 8MAN Data Owner process becomes a conduit for communication and collaboration of different roles and departments. This improved communication significantly improves the quality of access rights decisions.

"Did the solution help us? The answer is - definitely yes. 8MAN's features are helping us work much faster and our SharePoint farm is now much more secure. Detailed information about every user in our network helps us determine the appropriate user-rights for individual users or an entire group." Aldis Ešmits, Head of IT service unit at International airport Riga.