

Internal Security Breaches Single Biggest Cause of Financial Losses but Organisations are Failing to Acknowledge and Address the Issue

Submitted by: Devonshire Marketing Consultants Limited

Monday, 13 June 2005

Centralised Security Policy for Internal and External Threats Is the Only Solution, Says PortWise

PortWise, the secure application access specialists, today said that, even though it is now generally acknowledged amongst the analyst community that an increasing amount of security attacks come from within the organisation, companies are unwilling to acknowledge internal security breaches are so prevalent. Often, companies are unwilling to publicly recognise this type of breach and therefore it is very hard to quantify in real terms. Consequently, internal breaches maintain a low profile and companies are not investing in adequate internal controls to protect against them, even though it has been estimated that 80% of direct financial losses come from internal breaches.* PortWise believes that the only way to address this problem is to take a holistic approach to secure internal and external access to applications.

“Internal security breaches are a very sensitive issue,” said Jonathan Martin, CMO, PortWise.

“Companies don’t want to admit to them for obvious reasons and consequently they receive comparatively little coverage in the media, which predominantly focuses on malicious external attacks, such as viruses and phishing, for example. Unfortunately, as long as the myth that the biggest security threat is a dark and distant cyber-criminal attacking the company from the edge of network prevails, the internal organisation will remain under-secured and vulnerable.”

Another issue is the role that human error plays in internal security breaches. It is human nature to occasionally make mistakes, or to be inattentive, which can inadvertently lead to security issues. Also, if any internal security controls that are in place are complex or time intensive, it is likely that short cuts will be taken, which may lead to problems. This is exacerbated by external contractors who may be unaware of how to comply with unfamiliar security policies.

PortWise believes the solution lies in moving beyond security point solutions to a single platform that can be used to effectively control internal and external security, and that caters for human error. The PortWise 4.0 platform offers a rich, integrated suite addressing all aspects of secure application access, including user device assessment, strong user authentication, policy-based user authorisation, secure clientless access, access auditing and compliance, and session clean-up.

“PortWise believes that security is an architectural decision that should encompass threats from inside and outside the organisation, and consequently we enable our customers to create a central security policy and enforce it across the enterprise,” continued Martin. “We believe that this approach is fundamental to addressing internal security breaches. Only this method can take the issue of internal security threats – with the associated cost and complexity - and fold it seamlessly into a wider, comprehensive security policy.”

PortWise 4.0 is the industry’s first fully integrated and completely extensible software platform for Secure Application-Centric Access. The PortWise software platform provides a holistic approach to secure

internal and external access to applications. Using the PortWise software platform, it is possible to provide completely secure access to critical information and applications for internal users, the mobile workforce and integrated distributed partner networks from any device in any location. Using PortWise 4.0 enables organisations to securely mobilise their workforce and boost productivity of employees and partners while completely protecting the integrity of their organisation.

* Meta Group Research, Damage Statistics: More Damage than Statistics?

About PortWise

PortWise provides completely secure access to critical information and applications for the mobile workforce and distributed partner networks, from any device in any location. Its Application-Oriented Access solution is the industry's first fully integrated single platform to enable the secure mobilisation of the workforce while driving efficiencies and protecting the integrity of the organisation. Unlike point solutions and simple SSL VPN, PortWise provides deep integration with other security services within the enterprise. PortWise was recently cited in Gartner Group's SSL VPN Magic Quadrant as a technology visionary. PortWise are an international software company with offices in the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, United States, India, Singapore and partners across Europe, Asia and North America. Further details can be found at www.portwise.com.

For more information, please contact:

Monique Chambers
Devonshire Marketing
Tel: +44 (0)870 240 7995
monique@devonshiremarketing.com