Netcure and Van Zon: effective towards more cyber security in 5 phases

CHALLENGES

- High operational impact in case of cyber attack and data loss
- Gaining insight into the security of the IT system
- Awareness of cyber security among employees
- Affordable and efficient improvements

SOLUTION

- VLAIO cyber security improvement project
- Screening in 5 phases
- Implementation of cyber alarm
- Cyber security awareness programme
- Performing PEN test

ADVANTAGES

- In-depth insight into the state of cyber security
- Clear working points
- Targeted interventions
- A long-term, specialised and close partner

With 250 employees spread over 4 locations in Lommel, Beringen, Kampenhout and Beerse, the incoming and outgoing digital traffic flows of Horeca Van Zon are considerable. The risks of data theft and malware infection are therefore high. The internal IT department of the Limburg catering wholesale company has a lot of in-house expertise. However, for a really clear picture of the state of cyber security, Van Zon relies on cyber security specialist Netcure. Together, they go through a lengthy process during which Netcure screens the entire IT system, detects points for improvement and helps implement necessary actions.

"With about 2,500 incoming mails every day, there is always a chance that a phishing mail or an unwanted file will slip through the net," says Kris Vangeneugden, IT manager at Van Zon. "Our servers block a lot of things but our system is not watertight. And while large companies used to be the main victims of cyberattacks, we now know that SMEs like Van Zon must also do everything in their power to secure their systems and data. That is why we had been planning a screening of our IT systems for some time."

It took a while before we actually did it, but when the IT manager suggested working with Netcure, one of the nine recognised service providers within the cyber security improvement projects of the Flemish Innovation and Enterprise Agency (VLAIO), we did not hesitate.

CYBER SECURITY SCREENING IN 5 PHASES

"The first meetings with Erik Bosmans, CEO of Netcure, took place in October last year," says Kris. "A month later, our management team was at the table, and they were quickly convinced of Netcure's expertise and offer. On 1 January 2022, the first of 5 phases was launched. In the meantime, 3 phases have been completed and the fourth is about to start. The final phase will start in September.

First all our hardware and software was thoroughly screened. We checked out the old hardware, outdated software, necessary updates and so on. Then we took a closer look at our active directory: the users, groups and who has access to which data and files, and last but not least it was time to check out our Office 365 environment. During the 4th phase, we will document all procedures and protocols for updates, installations, backup procedures, data recovery and so on. In a final, not insignificant phase, penetration tests (PEN) will be conducted on our systems."

INSIGHTS, EXPERTISE AND PROXIMITY

The cooperation with Netcure not only gave Van Zon a thorough insight into IT security, it also resulted in a number of targeted interventions.

"Netcure not only provides affordable expertise and insights, but is above all a very approachable and close partner. We have one permanent contact for the entire process, who organises the meetings, reports and knows perfectly well where we stand and what we need. Moreover, we get honest answers to all our questions. Technical if possible, but also in an understandable language for the many non-specialists working here.

Netcure not only takes care of the screening, but thinks together with us about short- and long-term improvements that will allow us to improve our IT infrastructure in a targeted and efficient manner. For example, we implemented a cyber alarm device that monitors all incoming and outgoing traffic and allows us to improve our firewall every week."

TOGETHER FOR MORE AWARENESS

With the help of Netcure, Van Zon has already taken major steps towards greater cyber security. Even after the improvement process, the partnership between the two companies will continue.

"We decided that we would audit our Office 365 environment and active directory twice a year. In the area of awareness-raising, where there is still room for improvement, we are also extending our cooperation. That way we keep moving forward, get all our employees on board and remain the reliable partner with punctual 7/7 service that our customers deserve."

Netcure not only delivers affordable expertise and insights, but above all is a very approachable and close partner.

Kris Van Geneugden,
IT Manager of Horeca Van Zon

Marion Van Zon, CEO of Horeca Van Zon tells you why she joined the VLAIO improvement project.

Crazy about cybersecurity

Netcure is your independent specialist in cybersecurity. Our ambition? Complete security for your digital environment, however complex it may be. But also your complete peace of mind. Our security specialists will not only solve your security problems, they will make sure your cybersecurity is set up to perfection and ensure that you can face the future with confidence. How we do that? With a personal approach, 24/7 availability, independent advice and short lines of communication. You can be sure about that!

Netcure is a recognised VLAIO service provider with offices in Zaventem and Kasterlee. The company is committed to the cyber-security of about 300 small and large companies in various sectors. Besides Horeca Van Zon, these include De Wroeter, Acco, Fosbry & Sons, Juvo and Lunch Garden. Several cities and municipalities and sheltered workshops also use Netcure's services.

Netcure

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