

AKAMAI CUSTOMER STORY

Topcon Corporation

Topcon preemptively blocks unauthorized DNS queries using Akamai's vast amount of threat intelligence

Engaging in both active security measures and global governance

As a manufacturer of precision equipment with three areas of focus – “Positioning” and “Smart Infrastructure” for measurement equipment and systems used in surveying, civil engineering, construction sites, and agriculture; and “Eye Care” for inspection, diagnostic, and treatment devices used in ophthalmology and optometry – Topcon’s management philosophy is to resolve societal issues relating to food and housing and “contribute to the creation of a prosperous society” in the course of doing business.

The company is actively trying to expand overseas, so approximately 90% of their 80 consolidated subsidiaries are based overseas. Approximately 70% of Topcon’s 4,700 employees come from other countries. They are a global company with approximately 75% of their engineers coming from outside of Japan. Because of the business’s special characteristics, they pay careful attention to security. “In the manufacturing sector, we deal with highly confidential information such as design information for parts and products. For this reason, we take an active approach to implementing security measures,” says Kazuaki Miyata, Director of the Department of Information Systems, Corporate Planning Division.

Network and server security has of course been introduced. They have combined various layers of security measures and products to build a robust multilayered security foundation. Furthermore, they conduct periodic security diagnostics and have established security operations that are considered impervious to known attacks.



Topcon Corporation

Tokyo, Japan

www.topcon.co.jp

Industry

Retail and Consumer Goods

Solution

[Secure Internet Access Enterprise](#)

Key impacts

- Strengthens measures against targeted attacks using Akamai’s latest threat information
- Cloud-based architecture promotes global development



Akamai's countermeasures against targeted threats are simple and effective

As a company that is developing rapidly while spreading overseas, Topcon is concerned with defending against targeted attacks. "The speed at which targeted attacks evolve and become more complex is staggering, and we were worried that our measures might not be able to keep up. We thought that a global solution would be required to continue with our overseas business development," says Miyata.

While searching for exceptional new security solutions against increasingly sophisticated attacks targeting specific parties, they attended the Akamai Edge Japan 2017 conference. That's when they became interested in Akamai, after learning that Akamai provides "enterprise security" solutions to protect users inside organizations. Akamai introduced Topcon to Secure Internet Access Enterprise, one of their threat protection products. They had high expectations for the effectiveness of Secure Internet Access Enterprise, and decided to conduct a trial immediately.

"I think that Akamai's system, which uses the company's extensive threat intelligence to preemptively block unauthorized DNS queries, is a very simple and effective measure against targeted threats. So we decided to conduct a trial with Akamai's guidance," says Kazuo Suzuki, Information Systems Expert in the Department of Information Systems, Corporate Planning Division.

The trial allows easy understanding of your company's risks and communication status

Because it is offered as a cloud service requiring practically no initial construction and it uses DNS, all internal company communications can be protected simply by sending name resolutions to Akamai, which was groundbreaking for Topcon. A big point when selecting Secure Internet Access Enterprise was that no hardware was required, and its introduction and operation were far easier than on-premises products.

Topcon conducted an operational trial. They were able to understand the status of malware inside the company and experience the effectiveness of the high level of security and threat prevention. "The majority of name resolution conducted from computers uses DNS, so by analyzing that content we were able to understand the status of our company's communications. Through this trial we also discovered parts of our existing security measures that were lacking," says Suzuki.

Secure Internet Access Enterprise improves global governance

Once Secure Internet Access Enterprise began full operation, Topcon again noticed its benefits. "The transition from the trial to full operation went almost completely unnoticed. A major benefit of Secure Internet Access Enterprise is how simple it is to manage. And yet it is able to detect even internal threats. Furthermore, there is no hardware to renew or patches to apply like with hardware appliances. Everything is updated automatically on the cloud," says Suzuki.



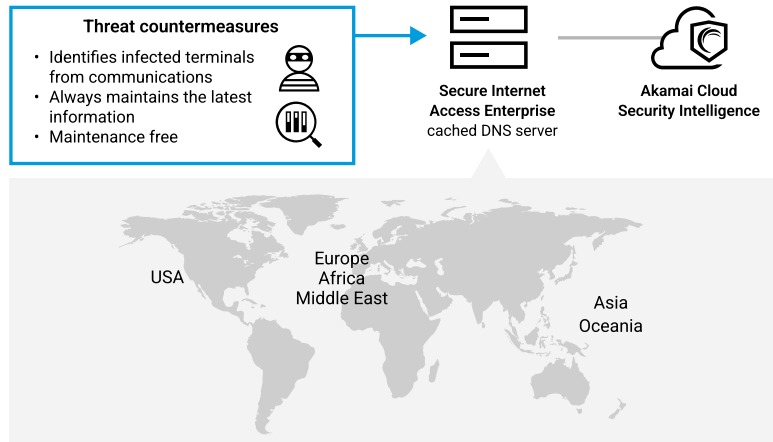
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Kazuaki Miyata

Director of the Department of Information Systems, Corporate Planning Division

“This has allowed the company to focus on what’s really important: whether there have been any security issues.” Moreover, there is also an aspect of Secure Internet Access Enterprise that Topcon can point to precisely because the company is expanding globally: Only one management console is needed to expand services throughout the world. When pursuing mergers and acquisitions to expand a business, keeping the organization’s security governance uniform becomes a challenge. However, Topcon is confident that with Secure Internet Access Enterprise it is possible to develop the same level of security and improve governance throughout the world. In fact, they say that they plan to use Secure Internet Access Enterprise for just such a project.

Global protection using cached DNS servers



Protects more than 70 overseas sites with centralized management

Akamai is a valuable partner

To people looking into Secure Internet Access Enterprise, Suzuki says “Participating in a trial will let you know whether or not Secure Internet Access Enterprise will be valuable to you as soon as it is introduced. With Akamai’s support, the trial is easy to start, so I think it’s definitely worth giving it a try. You can know immediately what sites are being accessed at your company.”

Topcon acknowledges that Akamai is a valuable partner to have when expanding a business overseas. Other than having introduced Secure Internet Access Enterprise, the company is hoping to strengthen its relationship with Akamai as it looks into other solutions.



The Topcon Corporation was established in September 1932 after acquiring Katsuma Optical Company’s lens factory facilities, with the surveying machine division of K. Hattori Seikosha as their main division. In 1989, the company changed its name from Tokyo Optical Co., Ltd to Topcon. Today the company strives to provide solutions to societal issues and expand their business as a maker of precision equipment by developing operations in three fields: “Positioning,” which develops products and systems using high precision Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) positioning, such as GNSS surveying, machine control, and precision agriculture; the world’s leading “Smart Infrastructure,” which combines cutting-edge GPS technology based on optical technology, laser technology, and image analysis technology; and “Eye Care,” which provides inspection, measurement, and diagnostic/treatment devices used in ophthalmology, as well as equipment and systems used by opticians, such as eye testing and lens manufacturing equipment: <https://www.topcon.co.jp/>.