Morisawa Gains Unprecedented Visibility and Control of Its Cloud Environment

Morisawa K.K. invented the Japanese phototypesetting machine in July 1924—a pioneer in the industry. Today, Morisawa fonts are used for a wide range of purposes, from business texts to advertisements, books, and digital content production, as well as for e-book and other layout solutions. Recently, the company's universal design fonts "UD digital textbook" and "BIZ UD font" were adopted by Microsoft for use in Windows 10. In addition, the Morisawa font "MC Catalog +" is widely adopted, especially by local governments in Japan.

Morisawa trusts and depends on Netskope's Cloud Access Security Broker (CASB) solution for visibility and control of all cloud services used within its large organization.

THE CHALLENGE

Prior to deploying Netskope, each department needed to make its own decisions about which cloud services were secure enough for business use, as there was no organization-wide standard.

Starting with a company-wide deployment of Office 365 in 2015, Morisawa has taken a cloud-first stance towards new business systems. Prior to adopting Office 365, various business units would make their own decisions about which cloud services were necessary for business, but from a security standpoint there were concerns over the amount of risk exposure due to not having clear guidelines. Members of the Information Systems team urgently needed to prepare a set of standards for which cloud services are acceptable or not, and with the expectation that cloud usage would continue to increase over time, the team became concerned that manually keeping an inventory of those cloud services would not be scalable.

The team was also concerned with what criteria to use and who would decide whether or not a given cloud service would be considered enterprise-ready. Morisawa was aware that many cloud services lack the security capabilities to prevent unwanted data loss or deletion.

"We think it is most important to first make a plan, then be aligned with users to enable safe adoption, and gradually control the use of cloud services."

Tsuyoshi Yamashita | Information Systems at Marisawa

Profile

Industry
Software

Region
Japan

Challenges
- Lack of visibility into cloud services
- Risk scoring and evaluation was done manually
- Limited policy controls

Benefits
- Automate identifying cloud services in use
- Create data protection policies across hundreds of cloud services
- Ability to put in place granular policies

Solutions
- Inline and API CASB
- Threat and Data Loss Prevention
- NewEdge
THE SOLUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Using Netskope’s Cloud Confidence Index database to reduce the burden of investigating a cloud service’s enterprise readiness

CASB solutions can help enterprises gain visibility into all cloud services in use, protect data, and guard against external threats like malware and ransomware. Netskope’s cloud proxy sits between a user and cloud services, becoming a single control point for visibility, access control, data protection, and granular logs that enable clients to enforce their security policies. Such policies can be enforced across entire categories of cloud apps rather than needing to be set on an app by app basis, without loss to usability or user friendliness, and while adhering to a consistent security policy.

Morisawa conducted a comparative evaluation of several CASB products, including Netskope. At the beginning of the evaluation and verification process, Morisawa elected to upload firewall log data to Netskope, analyzing cloud services used in-house. The preliminary questionnaire identified 54 types of cloud services; however, analysis by Netskope revealed more than double that amount in actual use.

According to Yamashita, “It was shocking that there were so many more than we expected, but since the company had also been focusing on multilingual fonts, and since there were overseas partners and local subsidiaries, we also saw a number of overseas cloud services we hadn’t heard much about.”

In use throughout this process was Netskope’s CCI (Cloud Confidence Index). Netskope has a specialized team that manages the CCI, tracking more than 28,000 cloud services and providing the latest information on detailed evaluations of 41 items across seven categories, all of which can be checked on Netskope’s administration console.

THE RESULTS

The decisive advantage: the ability to enable precise and granular control in real time

Another decisive factor leading to Netskope’s adoption was the ability to enable precise and granular control in real time.

Due to the nature of the company’s business, large volumes of data are passed to and from business partners, meaning cloud storage services are in use on a daily basis. Morisawa has adopted Office 365; however, customers may at times specify other desired services, which, for Morisawa’s team, can make secure access difficult.

Netskope enables easy setup of granular data security and control on the cloud, application, and user levels. Further, API linkage is possible with Office 365 and other services, enabling more granular control. For example, administrators can determine usage status for each application, like SharePoint and OneDrive, and of what kind of information is being shared from whom to whom, and where that information is being downloaded by whom. In addition, since it is possible to set detailed security policies for applications and information, administrators can forcibly prohibit downloads, even of files containing personal information from SharePoint. The use of Netskope also enables layered control, such as alerting users with coaching pop-ups rather than entirely prohibiting use of cloud services such as Box or Dropbox.