IronSphere
Autonomic Security Assessment

Success Story

Garanti BBVA

Garanti BBVA keeps its mainframe infrastructure secure by performing continuous security assessments and monitoring with IronSphere Inspector

About Garanti BBVA

Garanti BBVA is an integrated financial services group operating in every segment of the banking sector. Its services includes but not limited to corporate, commercial, SME, payment systems, retail, private and investment banking. In addition, Garanti BBVA runs subsidiaries in pension and life insurance, leasing, factoring, brokerage and asset management and operates international subsidiaries in the Netherlands and Romania.
Besides, Garanti BBVA Technology is a developer of many FIRSTS technologies in the Turkish finance sector. It provides organizations with technology infrastructure, software development on different platforms, internet applications, integration, system management, project management and office application services, all of the Garanti BBVA brand.

Challenge
To better protect users and assets Garanti BBVA Technology regularly performs an annual security assessment. The methods used pose four challenges : Frequency (annually), coverage (limited components every assessment), the time needed to perform the assessment, and accuracy.

Garanti BBVA Technology wants to be aware of security vulnerabilities as they are created and to have complete visibility into the real-time security state.

Garanti BBVA

Vertical   : IT Services

Industry : Finance and banking

Region   : EMEA

Solution : Security

Challenge.

- Improve security of all system components.
- Implement IT GRC methodologies in IBM mainframe security assessment and readiness reviews.
- GDPR article 32.d requirements.
- Real time monitoring by implementing ISCM and DISA STIGs Benchmarks.

Solution.
    Install IronSphere Inspector to monitor and perform security readiness reveres at real time.

Benefits.
- Quick deployment,
- End-to-end automation.
- No mainframe expertise required.
- Browser based dashboards and reports.

Solution

In December 2020, Garanti BBVA installed IronSphere in a sandbox Lpar in order to test the product in a quarantined environment. After two months, they moved the product to the development and production Lpars. Since then, Garanti BBVA technical and security teams are remediating the findings reported by IronSphere in order to achieve a better secured systems.

"The immediate reporting of findings allows us to quickly respond to any security changes and take the appropriate actions as soon as possible. The report to remediation cycle is shorted to few hours compared to the standard annual security assessment cycles. "

Adnan Can
Architect, Security Technologies

IronSphere is a leading real-time and ISCM (Information Security Continuous Monitoring) solution that combines DISA STIGs benchmarks, NIST ISCM and many IT GRC functionalities. The product is a three tier solution, involving an agent installed on the mainframe/iSeries Lpars, an on-premise virtual appliance and a client that uses a standard browser to access the server reports and dashboards.

IronSphere coverage of STIGs benchmarks was expanded to many IBM and third party vendor solutions such as the HMC, DB2, IMS, zOSMF, CA7 and many others.

IronSphere was designed and developed not to requires mainframe or baby mainframe (iSeries) knowledge. As such, it allows security professionals to monitor security while having the same language as the mainframe technical personnel. By applying IT GRC functionality, and thanks to that all assessment history is saved in the server database, IronSphere users can report in current and history point in time security state, and show compliance at any time since installed and show improvements to security in the future.

The installation of IronSphere helps clients around the world improve security level and increase awareness and hardening.

IronSphere Lab has worked closely with Garanti BBVA to install and implement IronSphere and helped them to gain quick results and improved security.

Benefits.

The benefits of improved security and locked-down (hardened) systems are countless. Since Garanti BBVA installed IronSphere they have been able to:

○ Modernize mainframe security monitoring like any other server in the server farm.

○ Collaborate on mitigating findings by sharing findings at the server itself and saves the need for sending reports via emails.

○ Allows technical personnel to only access findings under their roles.

○ Define triggers that monitors security control changes and execute the change-related tests.

○ Historical data help show the improvements to security during a period of time, but also report on a point in time (which has a huge value for GDPR validation).

"We are looking forward to building a strong partnership with the security team at Garanti BBVA in supporting them throughout this journey of Infrastructure hardening and making the Mainframe even more secure."

Itschak Mugzach, founder

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IronSphere is a product of SecuriTeam Software, an Israeli mainframe and iSeries cyber security