Situation

etón Corporation is a leading designer of innovative consumer electronic products that are sold by leading retailers such as RadioShack, Goodguys!, The Sharper Image, Restoration Hardware, Neiman Marcus, and Macy's. Its products include the *etón* E1 XM, the first product ever to combine AM/FM/Shortwave/XM Satellite in a portable radio, earning *etón* a top design and engineering award at 2004's Consumer Electronics show. e*tón* also designs a line of premium electronics for Porsche.

etón operates multiple mission-critical servers for Sales, Operations, and R&D and its numerous partners and resellers around the world access its Microsoft Windows-based network through VPN services for inventory and account management and to obtain technical information. At the same time that *etón* has grown so quickly, delivering products through thousands of retail outlets around the world, its IT staff has remained small and its network infrastructure was overdue for a performance and security tune-up to keep ahead of growth.

etón's VP of Operations Asad Sarabi began a project to re-architect his network to improve scalability, enhance access control, track user identity, increase security for application access, and provide more efficient and cost-effective network management and visibility. In particular, he wanted a better way to segregate access rights for visitors and partners, and improve the granularity and intelligence of his network monitoring capabilities to quickly identify non-business applications and their users.

He also wanted to deploy strong 802.1x authentication to support a WiFi roll-out using Aruba's Mobile Edge System. Due to security concerns, *etón* had postponed deployment of WiFi until they felt it was mature enough to support strong authentication, encryption across airwaves and automated tracking and correlating of access information.

Solution

Asad's first steps were to increase Layer 3 switching and routing horsepower for added scalability and network segregation, then to beef up security by installing a powerful threat management system including new firewalls and intrusion prevention. The third area – improving his processes for access control and managing and monitoring network activity – was more complex.

> *etón needed a major network & security tune-up to keep up with its network traffic growth.*
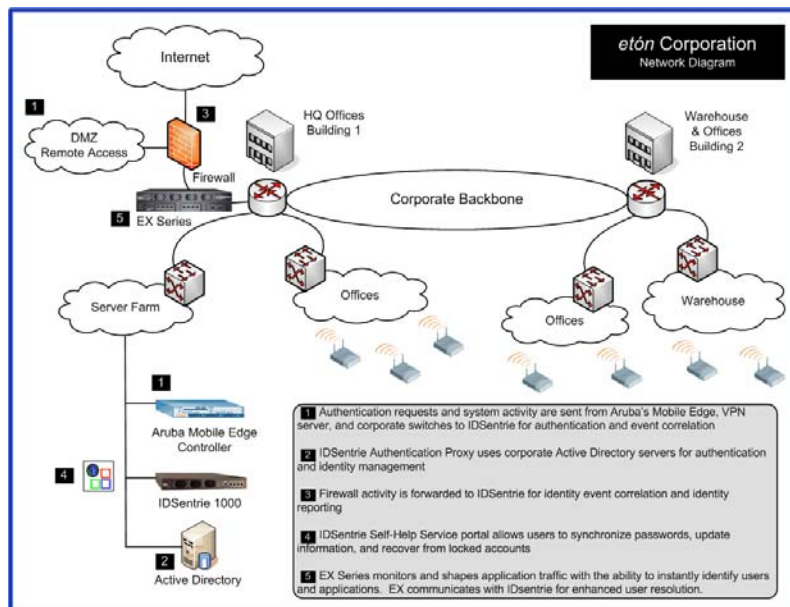>
> *EX Series offered etón bandwidth management with unprecedented visibility and IDsentrie offered an extremely cost-effective Identity & Access Management solution.*
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> *"We needed a better way to manage bandwidth, user identity, access control, network security and authentication – A10's EX Series and IDsentrie has immediately improved our network performance and security, and allowed us to automate many IT administration tasks -- saving us costs and countless work hours."*
>
> *--Asad Sarabi, VP of operations for etón Corporation*

etón considered several existing RADIUS server point products, but found them lacking in their ability to support their high security and visibility requirements. In addition *etón* didn't want a software solution where its entire RADIUS 802.1x authentication requests resided on its domain controllers – they wanted a robust, hardened appliance to front-end all local and remote authentication requests, for stronger layered security.

etón chose the EX Series Secure WAN Manager and IDsentrie identity management appliance from A10 Networks to handle these many complex network management, visibility, identity and security tasks. The EX Series delivers *etón* the capability to manage its network's capacity with full application and user identity visibility. With the EX Series, *eton* can see who is doing what and when on its network for file transfer, email, and Instant Message applications, and many others. This allowed *etón* to quickly see which applications were being used, the bandwidth they consumed, and the users of each application - which helped identify both business and non-business applications. After reviewing the reports, intelligent policies based on their users' needs were created to manage *etón*'s bandwidth and restrict non-business applications from interfering with daily business activities.

With IDsentrie, *eton* simplified its identity and access management infrastructure and can now resolve security and networking issues much faster. *etón* is also leveraging IDsentrie's IP-to-ID Service, which integrates with the EX Series, to eliminate the manual and time consuming task of reviewing and tracing system events back to individual employees, which can take many hours, if not days, of Asad's time each week. And IDsentrie's Authentication Proxy is utilizing *etón*'s existing Active Directory data stores with no modifications required – saving the IT team the daunting task of creating and managing a new set of accounts for its employees and thousands of partners.

Before EX Series, non-business applications such as iTunes were using bandwidth and causing critical business applications to suffer in performance. Now *eton* knows who is causing network performance issues, what applications they are using and how to move bandwidth away from non-business applications and to necessary business applic-ations. Before IDsentrie, there was limited policing of network access. Now there is full accountability, and with IDsentrie's advanced ability to provide identity-based, automated and scheduled reports, Asad has eliminated a huge number of time-consuming, manual processes.

Additionally, with IDsentrie's Unified Identity Manager (UIM) interface, *etón* can now provide employees with a self-service portal to allow them to update their account information, change passwords, and recover from lost passwords without having to call upon the IT helpdesk. With IDsentrie, *etón* has not only locked down its remote users and WiFi users, but also LAN-based users by requiring 802.1x port-based authentication.

etón Corporation Network Diagram

Success

etón is now able to provide strong authentication and control access into the network from wireless and wired environ-ments. The company is also increasing its existing network's performance by managing bandwidth by application, group and user identity. It has centralized access policies to provide complete access control for users to secure critical departments and has increased visibility for perimeter firewall activity. The IT department has much higher visibility into what users are doing at a high level as well as a granular detail level, without having to correlate logs from dissimilar systems.

By leveraging IDsentrie's IP-to-ID Service, which also integrates with the EX Series Secure WAN Manager, *etón*'s IT staff can also save an average of 30 minutes while troubleshooting an incident by eliminating the manual step of back-tracking MAC and IP address information to user identity. They can also quickly identify users involved in a security attack, network alert or network bottleneck so that immediate action can be taken before more damage is done. Finally, *etón*'s IT department can save countless hours annually while reducing time to problem resolution and improving network management, security, reporting and internal controls.

Finally, by reviewing logs from one central location, *etón* has enhanced and extended the capabilities of their limited IT team – literally doing more with less while identifying the users much more quickly than ever possible before.

About A10 Networks

A10 Networks was founded in 2004 with a mission to provide innovative networking and security solutions. A10 Networks makes high-performance products that help organizations accelerate, optimize and secure their applications. A10 Networks is headquartered in Silicon Valley with offices in the United States, Japan, China and Taiwan. For more information, visit www.a10networks.com.

About *etón* Corporation

etón Corporation is an established leader in consumer electronics audio products. *etón* is always "re-inventing radio". Its mission is to give the world access to news and information, anytime, anywhere. We strive to empower our customers with the most current information on the airwaves. *etón* is a global company. Our goal is to transcend boundaries, so our radios offer worldwide access to the information everyone needs to hear. For more information, visit www.etoncorp.com.