Hillstone
N E T W O R K S

McDonalds Macau Gains Visibility and Security of its Network Infrastructure with Hillstone Networks

The
Challenge

With their existing solution, the McDonald's IT department found that they had very little visibility into their network environment, and the team set out to scope a new solution for their datacenter to give them more visibility and control over their network infrastructure, specifically, traffic, applications and users. Understanding their network landscape would help the team identify potential threats, vulnerabilities as well as ensure appropriate quality of service (QoS).

The
Customer

The IT team at Macau McDonald's manages a data center that supports thirty McDonald's restaurants across Macau and two nearby cities, ZhuHai and ZhongShan, using routers for site-to-site VPN tunneling to provide services to their employees. The team manages the day-to-day operations that keep McDonalds a popular destination for both residents, as well as tourists. The data center is comprised of core business systems and applications that include HR, ordering and supply chain management. The IT team's mandate is to have a secure network connection for the employees in order to conduct business. Not having secure access would mean that business transactions would be at risk, thereby impacting not only productivity, but also sales and revenue. In addition, the IT team requires full visibility into the network traffic, application and user information. Having this visibility ensures control of the network and its security.

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The Solution

The team implemented the Hillstone Next Generation Firewall (NGFW) in their Macau data center. Hillstone Networks NGFW provides visibility and control of web applications. It identifies and prevents potential threats associated with high-risk applications while providing policy-based control over applications, users, and user-groups – addressing the solution requirement from the McDonald's IT team. Policies can be defined that guarantee QoS to mission-critical applications while restricting or blocking inappropriate or malicious applications.

The Hillstone solution helped provide Layer 7 firewall protection as well as control internal P2P applications usage, fix inefficient bandwidth usage and costs, and protect internal systems. The IT team concluded that the two criteria they were seeking in a network solution were not only met, but exceeded – the Hillstone solution secured the network and provided granular visibility down to the application and the user activity.

After using the solution, the IT team had a better understanding of the robust capabilities, features and functions. Through the management dashboard, they had visibility over applications, their usage, and bandwidth.

The Hillstone solution offers more security effectiveness, features and benefits than other vendors in the same class of firewall solution. In addition, the recent news that Hillstone was recommended by NSS Labs clinched the decision for the team. The NSS Labs report lists the Hillstone solution with a "Recommended" rating and is among the top scoring solutions in security effectiveness and value in the latest NSS Labs Next Generation Firewall test. The report results validated IT manager's decision, because it is an industry standard report with credibility, which many IT managers consult.