MULTILAYER SECURITY AGAINST ADVANCED THREATS

A security stack expanded with F-Secure solutions improved Teosto’s visibility and response speed.
Changes in its IT infrastructure and environment prompted Teosto to look for capabilities against more sophisticated threats. The company now has a full-range, unified cloud-based security solution with detection and response, vulnerability management and endpoint protection capabilities.

**Striving for real-time situational awareness**

Founded in 1928, Teosto is a music copyright organization in Finland. Teosto collects royalties from music license users, such as concert planners and radio stations, and pays those royalties to composers, arrangers, lyricists, and publishers. Teosto works to ensure that music creators can focus on what really matters to them: making new music.

Teosto's operational model mirrors private banking services, as it handles and manages artists' copyrights. Because the software systems it needs are difficult to find out-of-the-box on the market, Teosto has developed most of its operational software in-house. Protecting the sensitive personal and financial customer information handled by these systems is crucial. Many of Teosto's customers are celebrities and other public figures.

Over the past few years, Teosto's IT infrastructure has undergone major changes. Technological developments such as increasing use of cloud services have added complexities to the IT environment. Growing numbers of vulnerabilities and threats combined with amplified complexities have increased the workload for Teosto's IT and Security Manager Harri Ahokas and his “one-man SOC” (security operations center): “In today’s world you have to do more – and do it faster. You can’t fix this simply by doing more manually, you need to be able to use automation in different ways.”

**TEOSTO RY - MUSIC IS POWER.**

Teosto is a copyright organization for music creators, composers, and publishers. Teosto works to ensure that music creators can make music as a profession, and that music customers have easy ways to avail themselves of the many benefits of music. Teosto collects copyright royalties from music users and pays them to composers, arrangers, lyricists, and publishers, so that they can create more music.

Key figures:
- 35,000 domestic clients, music creators and publishers, and about 30,000 music users
- Founded in 1928
- 72 employees, 770 members
- 72.1 million of royalties in 2019

**TEOSTO’S REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION CRITERIA:**

- Situational awareness of IT environment and attack surface
- Behavioral threat analysis
- Continuous vulnerability management
- Architecturally unified cloud-based solution
- Smooth cooperation and solid partnership with the vendor

**BENEFITS:**

- Real-time situational awareness
- Flexibility, speed and cost-efficiency
- Protection against advanced threats
- Fortified protection with multiple security layers
- Continuity to a long-lasting partnership
“Our objectives were good vulnerability management processes with continuous situational awareness and real-time understanding of the environment.”

Harri Ahokas, IT and Security Manager

“F-Secure Elements EDR has a good user interface, and it provides a streamlined way to drill down events.”

Harri Ahokas, IT and Security Manager

Teosto had previously arranged for vulnerability scanning to be done annually as a service, which Ahokas says is no longer sufficient. With the world of threats and vulnerabilities fast evolving, situational understanding and a current snapshot of the environment are needed daily, he asserts. Continuous vulnerability management, high performance, cost efficiency, and cloud-native architecture were deciding factors for Teosto.

“It is important to get a frequently updated snapshot and understanding of the situation every day, not only once per year. The world is changing fast when it comes to threats and vulnerabilities.”

Harri Ahokas, IT and Security Manager

New capabilities from a long-time cyber security partner

Teosto already had an on-premises endpoint protection solution, Business Suite from F-Secure. Ahokas was happy with the solution, cooperation, and support services. Convinced by his past experiences, he decided to test endpoint detection and response (EDR) and vulnerability management (VM) solutions from the same vendor.

Teosto didn’t have behavioral analytics or the means to detect advanced attacks. After testing F-Secure Elements Endpoint Detection and Response, Ahokas says Teosto decided to purchase the solution for its capability to detect behavioral anomalies and respond to advanced attacks. F-Secure Elements EDR’s efficient user interface also offered Ahokas a streamlined way to drill down to events.

As Teosto added new security layers, the company also updated its on-premises endpoint security solution, F-Secure Business Suite, to the cloud-based F-Secure Elements Endpoint Protection. The new endpoint protection solution bolstered Teosto’s behavior-based threat prevention. The transition to the new endpoint protection solution was smooth and straightforward, taking less than a day to implement to Teosto’s environment of a hundred endpoints.

Ahokas says the deployment of Teosto’s new stack of security solutions was quick and painless overall.
Warding off threats with multiple security layers

According to Ahokas, in today’s complex threat landscape, a versatile cyber security solution stack containing multiple protection layers is important. More controls in place to slow down the attacker means more time to notice anomalies, increasing the chance of detecting the attacker, he says.

With its new F-Secure solution stack, Teosto has enjoyed significant cyber risk management benefits. For example, vulnerability reports can be produced whenever needed. Ahokas says F-Secure Elements Vulnerability Management has added flexibility, speed and cost efficiency to Teosto’s operations.

“F-Secure Elements Vulnerability Management has added flexibility, speed and cost-efficiency to our operations.”

Harri Ahokas,
IT and Security Manager

With F-Secure Elements Endpoint Detection and Response, Teosto now has a better understanding of what is going on at its endpoints. The solution produces useful data and presents it in a clear format that makes monitoring complex chains of events efficient. Ahokas praises the solution for its ease of use, especially compared to many other solutions that require considerable expertise to use effectively.

“F-Secure Elements EDR has been designed to be as convenient and easy to use as possible,” he says.

According to Ahokas, no number of technological solutions alone will guarantee success in the cyber security battle, as the most challenging attack vector is still people. User trainings and regular communications about cyber security are high priorities at Teosto.

Ahokas emphasizes the importance of security knowledge and expertise to gain an understanding of security goals and problems to be solved. “Cyber security isn’t just the technologies. You need expertise – whether in-house or outsourced from a partner,” he says.

Teosto’s cyber security architecture is now well-aligned and unified. All its endpoint protection solutions are cloud-based and acquired from a single vendor, making maintenance effortless and efficient. With Teosto’s latest investments in IT architecture and cyber security, there are no imminent changes in sight, says Ahokas, “We are now focused on maintenance and responding to changes if needed.”
ABOUT F-SECURE

Nobody has better visibility into real-life cyber attacks than F-Secure. We’re closing the gap between detection and response, utilizing the unmatched threat intelligence of hundreds of our industry’s best technical consultants, millions of devices running our award-winning software, and ceaseless innovations in artificial intelligence. Top banks, airlines, and enterprises trust our commitment to beating the world’s most potent threats.

Together with our network of the top channel partners and over 200 service providers, we’re on a mission to make sure everyone has the enterprise-grade cyber security we all need. Founded in 1988, F-Secure is listed on the NASDAQ OMX Helsinki Ltd.

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