beta systems

Industrial Giant Discovers 200,000 Network Endpoints in One Day

One of the world's largest industrial company uses Infraray BICS for real-time monitoring of global network

Initial Situation

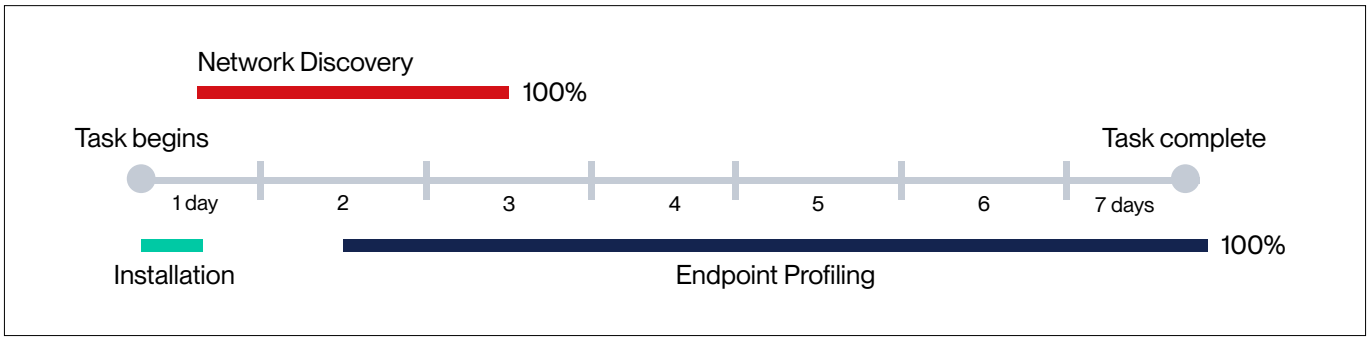
The Infraray customer is one of the world's leading industrial companies with more than 100,000 employees, several hundred production sites, and sales of more than €10 billion. To upgrade security to the IEEE 802.1X standard, the company needed to detect and categorize every endpoint on its global network.

Infraray passed every proof of concept test convincingly, was implemented in a day, and discovered 260,000 endpoints within four days, 80% of them in the first eight hours.

> *" This solution created a basis for the implementation of IEEE 802.1X. It also reduces costs by quickly providing exact information about connected endpoints!*

Benefits: A value sequence that begins with discovery

- BICS persistently delivers a complete, granular inventory of all devices and endpoints, including categories.
- The customer is able to precisely calculate the cost of enterprise-wide security upgrades.
- Ongoing, central management of Media Access Control (MAC Layer-2) device security.
- Ability to monitor all network components in real time, detect and block security threats on every port.
- Administrators can centrally retrieve data on every network resource.



Challenge: Classify every device on a heterogeneous global network

The Endpoint Profiling Project was triggered by its planned rollout of IEEE 802.1X-based authentication to enhance access control and network security. To pinpoint the scope and cost of this large-scale project, the industrial giant needed a precise and complete categorization of all devices on its network, to assess how many could upgrade in their current state, and the cost of those that would need to be modified or replaced.

> *" Only Infraray could profile more than 200,000 endpoints with the necessary quality and scale!*

Solution: Lightning-fast detection and classification of endpoint hardware

Most available solutions were locked into a particular hardware vendor. Neither Cisco nor Juniper could detect endpoints connected to network devices made by other manufacturers. Cisco's solution could not detect older Cisco devices that it no longer supported. To inventory and classify devices manually across their huge network was impractical.

Infraray BICS (Business Infrastructure Control Solution) accurately discovered network devices and endpoints of every make, model, and version – and convincingly passed every test of the customer.

Designed for heterogeneous environments, Infraray stood out because it was able to locate and interface with every device on the network, and categorize it correctly. Upon proving this capability and showing its speed, the customer selected the BICS platform to visualize and monitor its network in real time.

Implementation: One day Discovery: 260,000 endpoints in four days

Endpoint profiling projects of this scope often require several days to implement, plus several weeks to detect the endpoints. By contrast, the Infraray BICS installation required less than one day to install and make ready.

Then came network discovery, which was 80 percent complete in one day. Within four days, every port, component, and endpoint device on the network had been identified, correctly categorized, and placed under active management.

Outcome

After a rapid integration, detection, and categorization of the myriad devices linked to its network – both in-house and BYOD – the customer relies on Infraray BICS for monitoring over a quarter-million endpoints. The company leverages the total network visibility that Infraray delivers for both security and as central control over IT infrastructure in real time. The industrial giant is better able to protect its IT assets and base its plans on accurate cost projections.