

## Leading Confectionary Maker Ensures PCI Compliance and Performance with AirMagnet Enterprise

*AirMagnet secures and monitors organization's WLAN in retail locations, corporate offices and manufacturing plants*

Leading maker of confectionary and other food products, employs more than 40,000 people in locations across the globe. The company operates its headquarters in the United States with eight plants across the nation.

### Highlights

#### Industry

Retail

#### Challenge

- Safeguard sensitive data and ensure PCI compliance
- Continuously monitor WLAN
- Provide real-time visibility into the state of the network
- Scale WLAN management as company expands retail business

#### Solution



AirMagnet Enterprise

*"While security wasn't a big issue for us at the plants and retail locations, our corporate offices needed protection. Sensitive information was exchanged through the WLAN and we required a solution that could show us in plain view that our network was safeguarded."*

IT Administrator

### The Challenge

As one of the largest manufacturers of confectionary and other food products in the world, the company utilizes wireless networks across all plants, offices and retail locations. With these disparate locations, the need for an all-encompassing 24x7 wireless monitoring solution became apparent, as IT management needed the ability to monitor the configuration of all access points (APs) and ensure proper performance of the networks.

In addition, with the opening of a second retail location and new Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS) enacted, compliance reporting became a top priority for the company. PCI security standards are technical and operational requirements set to protect cardholder data. The most recent standard, version 1.2, includes requirements and updates around sun-setting of Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) wireless security implementations by 2010 and new guidelines for testing and scanning with WIPS/WIDS.

"With two large retail locations, it became a top priority for us to meet all compliance requirements set forth by the PCI Council and ensure the safety of sensitive data across all of our networks," noted a company IT administrator. "While this is a separate issue from our needs at the plants and office locations, it became equally important,

especially in light of the latest PCI DSS standard specifically focused on wireless networks. We needed a solution that could monitor and show us that we were achieving and maintaining compliance at all times."

Finally, WLAN security within the corporate office locations was a priority. With sensitive company and customer information, it was important to the executive team that measures be put in place that could monitor and secure the WLAN from any rogue APs or malicious attacks. "While security wasn't a big issue for us at the plants and retail locations, our corporate offices needed protection. Sensitive information was exchanged through the WLAN and we required a solution that could show us in plain view that our network was safeguarded," continued the administrator.

### The AirMagnet Solution

After careful consideration of many solutions, the organization chose to deploy AirMagnet Enterprise for locations in the United States, including plants, distribution centers, corporate offices and retail locations.

"We chose AirMagnet Enterprise because it rose to the top when held against the rest of the WLAN solutions," explained the administrator. "It truly met all the needs of the company, including support for the latest PCI

standard, and provided us with the visibility and feature set that allows us to see the state of our WLAN at all times. With Enterprise, we know our network is secure and performing well because we can see it all – something other products can't measure up to."

AirMagnet Enterprise provided the company with a simple, scalable WLAN monitoring solution that enabled the organization to proactively mitigate all types of wireless threats, enforce enterprise policies, prevent performance problems and audit the regulatory compliance of their WiFi assets. It offers complete visibility and control over the wireless airspace, enabling the company to reliably deliver the same standards of security, performance and compliance for their wireless networks as they expect from their wired networks.

"Before deploying AirMagnet Enterprise, we had to have a member of the IT team 'on-call' each month to fly across the United States to troubleshoot issues at any of our locations

nationwide," added the IT administrator. "That was a huge waste of resources for the company and a lot of unnecessary travel time for the 'on-call' employee. Now, we troubleshoot from one central location, saving time and money and streamlining the process in a huge way."

In addition, AirMagnet Enterprise provides 24/7 monitoring of the company's retail WLAN environments to ensure PCI compliance. Enterprise alerts administrators to the use of the weaker WEP technology and identifies if those keys are vulnerable to cracking by freeware tools. The product also allows users to see the location of any unauthorized devices on a floor map of the location and launch analytical traces to expose where the device is attached to the wired infrastructure.

"Although we currently only have two retail locations open, we have plans in the works to open a number of additional stores across the country," continued the administrator. "With a focus on retail becoming a bigger part of our business, it was essential that we met all requirements and remained compliant

with any standard set forth by the PCI council. AirMagnet Enterprise has given us unfettered visibility into our retail WLANs and offered the most comprehensive compliance reporting we've seen. We definitely plan to continue to grow our use of Enterprise as our retail business expands," continued the administrator.

Currently, the company has deployed AirMagnet SmartEdge Sensors across four of the eight plants, the corporate offices, and at both retail locations. With plans to open additional retail locations over the next 24 months, the company will deploy AirMagnet Enterprise at each new retail store.

"Overall, we have been extremely pleased with the results we've seen from AirMagnet Enterprise. With such a varied set of needs, we didn't expect to find one comprehensive solution to meet them all. But with Enterprise, it not only meets all of our specific needs, it goes beyond that and provides us with the most complete picture of our network from all angles, which is a priceless tool to our IT team. "

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