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N.V. NEDERLANDSCHE APPARATENFABRIEK "NEDAP" Chooses the RD VPN Concept from HOB for Secure Access

Nedap develops, produces and supplies high tech products and solutions in the fields of security and electronic control systems. A major focus in 2006 is 'connected systems' in which RFID plays an important role. Products and services for all kind of application areas like RFID systems for libraries, school management information systems, cattle code management systems, locker systems, retail theft deterrent systems and many more. Nedap has over 600 employees in the head office in Groenlo and subsidiaries on other locations in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, England, France and Spain. Nedap is quoted on the stock exchange since 1949.

ENABLE SECURE INFORMATION ACCESS WITHOUT OBSTACLES

Nedap is characterized by a development-, entrepreneurship- and staffs' own responsibility-oriented open, innovative and creative culture that guarantees innovation. The head quarter itself shows creativity in design and interior and ads up to an environment where it is a pleasure

to work. "IT and all its security aspects must not interfere with the creativity of our employees and should support the primary business processes," said Tom Schneider, responsible for

the network management at Nedap. "We needed to work with partners in countries like Romania. The engineers in those countries should

collaborate with our Dutch engineers and use the same applications. Instead of installing and maintaining heavy engineering applications like Visula on unknown PCs we did not administer, we looked for a solution to access these applications from the centralized location in Groenlo." The idea was to use these graphical applications remotely by using centralized PCs and the RDP protocol in Windows XP Professional.

Remote access for external developers is part of a company strategy to enable secure and easy access from any location to information using applications running on desktops, mainframes, intranet web sites or for example terminal servers.

ON DEMAND ACCESS TO ALL APPLICATIONS

To enable secure access to desktops with fast application performance using an Internet connection, Nedap deployed the HOB solution. HOB combines a secure access portal WebSecureProxy with Enterprise Access – an integrated management framework for users, user environment and settings for all HOB applications. "We came to the HOB solution fairly early in the process. Alternatives in the market were more expensive, but much more important was that these had no Java client or a very slow Java client. The Java RDP client from HOB is very fast and written in native Java, which means it runs on almost every version of the Java Virtual Machine on any operating system and even on kiosks, where the end user has no special rights," added Schneider. "In addition,

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TOM SCHNEIDER, RESPONSIBLE FOR NETWORK MANAGEMENT, NEDAP



HOB was the only manufacturer in Europe with 256-bit encryption using a web browser."

"Engineers outside the Netherlands connect to HOB WebSecure-Proxy using an Internet connection and are passed through to a centralized desktop in our LAN using the HOB feature Desk-

top-on-Demand," continued Schneider. "This functionality also meets our need to open up information to all our employees in a secure way, from desktops we don't manage on home locations or while visiting partners that won't allow connecting our notebooks to their network." Office applications are deployed on terminal servers using HOBLink JWT, which integrates with WebSecureProxy and enables additional features like Easyprinting and Enhanced local drive mapping. The Load Balancing component within HOBLink JWT will be enabled in the near future to scale up to prepare for adding smaller subsidiaries.

The Retail Support market group at Nedap also required access to applications running on iSeries mainframes, using desktops at customers' sites. HOBLink J-term terminal emulation enables this feature and again integrates seamlessly with WebSecureProxy.

EASY SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

An important goal when introducing this concept of universal access was to keep system administration as simple as possible without compromising security. The SSL-based access portal WebSecureProxy takes care of encryption, authentication and authorization of applications. User account management and single sign-on is automatically provided by the inte-

grated support of Active Directory and the company's Vasco-tokens. HOB RD VPN is very easy to manage as the implementation of the HOB solution at Nedap proves. The additional remote access services to the network are supported by the same number of administrators than before. Also, easy of administration is seen in the upgrade process of the WebSecureProxy software, which can be done live without anyone noticing anything.

FLEXIBILITY IS THE WINNING CARD

According to Nedap, the power of the HOB solution is that it enables access to terminal servers, desktops, iSeries mainframes and Outlook Web Access using one easy portal environment that is centrally managed. Employees use a web portal with exactly those business applications that they need for their daily work.

"The main business advantage is a high level of flexibility which is impossible to quantify in money. It is now easy for us to reallocate production to foreign countries. For example, we now can hire and authorize foreign technical highly skilled but cheaper temporary workers or let partners access our network. Even our own employees save time because they can access information anytime and anywhere." Schneider concluded. "You could say that the HOB solution prepared our company for ongoing internationalization. Opening new offices and offer our centralized application becomes much easier."

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SYSTEMS IN USE:

- HOB RD VPN, with:
 - HOB WebSecureProxy
 - HOB Enterprise Access
 - HOB Desktop-on-Demand
 - HOBLink JWT
 - HOBLink J-term
 - HOBLink Xpert module
- Vasco tokens
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003
- Miscellaneous applications for software engineers like compilers
- Miscellaneous CAD applications like Visula