POWERDNS

CASE STUDY | LARGE SCANDINAVIAN TELCO

Supporting a Scandinavian telco in delivering ubiquitous layer of protection for all its mobile and mobile broadband customers

The challenge

The large Scandinavian telco, a provider of digital services and 5G for millions of consumers, corporate and public administration customers mostly in Northern Europe but also worldwide, became a long-term customer of PowerDNS in 2016. After many years of using PowerDNS to reliably resolve its customers DNS requests, the Scandinavian telco decided to put a bigger focus on network-based security solutions.

The idea was to provide its customers with an additional layer of basic protection, which guards against the most common internet threats, including harmful content and malware, on mobile and mobile broadband devices.

It wanted to do this based by blocking access to pages known to include harmful elements, including malware, ransomware, adware, spyware, or payment scams and phishing that can be used for blackmail purposes. It was important to the telco that its customers did not have to use any hardware components or install any additional software.

The solution

As a result of a successful partnership spanning more than five years, the Scandinavian telco discussed how a DNS-based solution could provide the required level of protection to its customers with the PowerDNS team.

PowerDNS presented its PowerDNS Protect solution, which provides a secure connectivity experience for all its mobile and mobile broadband customers' connected devices, including traditional mobile and desktop devices, as well as IoT gadgets. It secures against malware, phishing and visiting malicious domains, and protects devices from being infected or hacked. In line with one of the telco's core requirements, PowerDNS Protect starts working immediately without any need for users to do anything or additional hardware requirements.

PowerDNS Protect is based on DNS and filtering malicious DNS traffic. Utilizing lookups in white and blacklists, it takes care of handling, analyzing, and, if necessary, blocking specific DNS requests for all devices connected to the Scandinavian telco's mobile network. The integrated filtering engine makes use of best in breed threat intelligence from PowerDNS and specialized partners to provide always-up-to-date protection from malware and phishing.

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DNS filtering with PowerDNS Protect
to secure against malicious content

After examining a number of solutions, the Scandinavian telco was even more convinced of PowerDNS' network-based security solution PowerDNS Protect, so it installed it on top of the existing PowerDNS Recursor and DNSdist instances.

Since PowerDNS installations are generally open for the integration of additional services, it was very easy to add malware protection and content filtering for all mobile customers to the existing solution.

After some initial workshops and training, PowerDNS Protect was implemented, then the telco extensively tested the solution and the threat intelligence feeds successfully.

As a result, the Scandinavian telco launched its solution at the end of 2022, which protects its customers against the most common threats on the internet. It recognizes and blocks harmful websites automatically, sends its customers a warning before they visit a malicious site, and still offers them an option to bypass the block, if necessary – all without any negative impact on speed or user experience.

The reasons

Reasons why the Scandinavian telco offers security based on PowerDNS Protect

- **Works everywhere** in the mobile network, including abroad
- The service is **always on**
- **Secures applications** in the background
- Customers receive **proactive security**
- **No installation or separate application** required
- Works **on all mobile and desktop devices**
- **Browser agnostic**, customers can use their favorite browser

Please contact us if you want to learn more about our project or PowerDNS.

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