



FINANCIAL PLUS CREDIT UNION (FPCU)

CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

In today's market, there is an increased demand for a **Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)** platform as more companies are exposed to vulnerabilities, attacks, criminals, and other cybersecurity threats. According to Verizon's **2020 Data Breach Investigations Report (DBIR)**, "86% of breaches were financially motivated." Originally, security and event management platforms were created to provide organizations with visibility into all their security alerts. These platforms have evolved to include sophisticated features like artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, threat intelligence, deep and dark web monitoring tools, and more.

Financial institutions house millions of network and financial accounts containing private information requiring continuous monitoring and protecting. Not surprisingly, these organizations face considerable challenges when it comes to safeguarding their customers' personal and financial data.

Finding a security and compliance analytics platform that fits your organization's needs and budget can be difficult. Roadblocks occur because there is a lack of knowledge about these platforms and how they actively work with your network.



KEY POINTS

CHALLENGES

- IT department was missing a security platform that would provide 24/7 network visibility
- Inability to receive reports or customize alerts regarding activities within network
- Seeking an easy-to-use security and compliance platform that would support the IT team and make daily operations more manageable

RESULTS

- Adlumin provides compliance automation tools, which allow FPCU to quickly download reports for their records and audits
- In two years, FPCU's network health score increased by 20 points and are currently in *excellent* security standing
- Real-time dashboard alerts provided IT team with full network visibility and pointed to areas of improvement

THE SITUATION

Financial Plus Credit Union (FPCU) is a state-chartered credit union located in Illinois. Founded in May of 1951 by Charles Munks, they are now over a \$300 million-dollar financial institution with five offices and more than 32,000 members. FPCU is owned and operated by its members who put their assets into a variety of saving accounts, and in return, that money can be lent out to other credit union members.

Financial Plus is a reliable credit union that continuously strives to properly serve and provide full coverage of its networks. **FPCU was seeking an easy-to-use security platform that would support its IT team and make daily operations**

more manageable. Despite exploring different security and automation tools, the team found that many were missing key features of a next-generation platform such as artificial intelligence, darknet exposure modules, a 24/7 security operation center, and more.

The credit union was also having visibility issues. Specifically, their security platform at the time did not receive alerts or give them the ability to manage and customize notifications within the dashboard. It became clear that Financial Plus needed a better solution to help manage daily operations and allow users to customize alerts and reports.



Adlumin installed in minutes, gave me complete visibility of my network from in the office or remotely at home, made it easy for me to customize alerts and respond in real-time giving my financial institution exactly what we needed for security and compliance.”

---- Jay Klag, Network Administrator

THE SOLUTION

In 2018, Financial Plus Credit Union learned about Adlumin while attending the Credit Union National Association (CUNA) Cybersecurity Conference with NASCUS in Nashville, Tennessee. During that time, FPCU was looking for a security platform that would take their operations and network health to the next level. Adlumin would become the solution to supporting the credit union's three-person IT team.

Adlumin's security and compliance automation platform provides the organization with features, which enhance network security and functionality. Specifically, the One-Touch Compliance Reporting Tool allows FPCU to quickly download reports, which are kept for its records and required for National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) audits. For example, the team scheduled an Account Manipulation Report, which they consider critical, to be delivered on a monthly basis. More importantly, they can provide their board and IT committee with a designated report, which includes an overview of key data points relevant to the organization's security objectives or needs.

Within Adlumin's platform, the network health score determines what factors increase risk on the network and offers users instructions through

issue-specific icons on how to improve. That way, customers know exactly what action is needed to decrease each threat factor. After deploying Adlumin's platform, **Financial Plus Credit Union had a network health score of 75 out of 100. Two years later, it has increased by 20 points.** According to Adlumin's breakdown, FPCU's current score of 95 is considered an "excellent" security standing.



Since we started using Adlumin, our network security has increased dramatically," says Jay Klag, Network Administrator at Financial Plus Credit Union. "The dashboard alerts have brought attention to areas that our IT team can now address, which has helped reduce security and compliance threats within our networks."

Additionally, the platform's dashboard alerts brought attention to specific elements of FPCU's network health that needed to improve. Each member of the IT team is able to customize all notifications and alerts, which constantly points them to areas requiring special attention and/or further investigation.



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CREATING A BETTER CYBERSECURITY EXPERIENCE

When shopping for a reliable, easy-to-use security and compliance automation platform, it is important to consider features that are going to make your team's lives easier and play a major role in the productivity of the company. Your financial institution's goal should be to find a platform that will improve the overall network health and efficiencies of cyber resources. Trusting a security analytics platform to do the work for you is the quickest way to secure your network and put your team member's minds at ease.

Adlumin provides continuous protection against cybercriminals and other potential threats to enhance the productivity and security of your organization. The goal is to "add luminosity", or visibility, to every customer's network processes through real-time threat detection, analysis, and response to ensure sensitive data remains secure.

Adlumin has improved daily IT operations at FPCU by providing an extra layer of security and compliance for our networks," Klag said. "The platform is user-friendly and supported by talented technical support that responds and solves any user issue quickly and completely."

In the end, the platform needs to offer solutions that align with company objectives. By shifting the burden to a security and compliance automation platform, your organization can focus on providing high-quality service to customers. It is important to embrace advancements in technology, so make implementing a next-generation security analytics platform a requirement, not an option, for your financial institution.

ABOUT ADLUMIN

Adlumin's cloud-native security and compliance automation platform is built exclusively for financial institutions to discover threats, malfunctions, and IT operations failures in real-time. In seconds, customers can also comply with industry regulations. The platform ingests all of your device data including laptops, desktops, servers, VPNs, firewalls, and security application data. Adlumin then runs sophisticated data science across the entire data set looking for, and alerting you to, any anomalous or malicious behavior.

Customers are equipped with tools to improve their overall network health and efficiencies of cyber resources as they work to protect critical financial institution data. Adlumin also provides real-time insight into regulation and compliance violations and deficiencies. This is accomplished through a combination of proprietary technologies and background automation, which does not require human intervention or an understanding of internal and external threats.

Adlumin is dedicated to creating a safe cyber environment through its cost-effective security analytics platform. Customers can monitor and defend their networks locally, in the cloud, and across the globe.