Henny Penny Supports Remote Workforce Securely and Efficiently With NHC

"NHC Mobile Access let us get out in front of the COVID-19 outbreak and enable people to work securely from home within days. We got our license updated and experienced no problems. Our NHC representative understood what was taking place and provided a quick turnaround."

— Jason Thomas, Senior Security Analyst, Henny Penny

Industry: Manufacturing

Challenge	Solution	Results
■ Protect network perimeter from malware, phishing, and malicious attacks ■ Simplify management complexity ■ Maintain business continuity throughout a historic pandemic	■ NHC next generation security gateway ■ NHC mobile access, anti-bot, anti-malware, access control, and URL filtering results	■ Rapidly expanded, secure, remote access to maintain operations during COVID-19 lockdown ■ Protected network perimeter and users from changing threats ■ Simplified network administration to free up time for small IT team

Overview
Henny Penny designs, develops, and manufactures premium food service equipment known for reliability, ease of use, and low operating costs.

Business Challenges
Securing a global, cloud-powered manufacturing organization for more than 60 years, Henny Penny has proudly served many of the world's most demanding kitchens. Headquartered in Eaton, Ohio, the company offers a rich portfolio of products along with start-up, service, training, and technical support through its global distribution network. Like most manufacturers, Henny Penny depends on its network infrastructure to power its most important supply chain operations and keep its employees productive.

"What keeps me up at night is what our users are doing with their endpoints and where they're going," said Jason Thomas, Senior Security Analyst at Henny Penny. "There's always the concern that someone will click on a link on an email or web site and then go to a malicious site without knowing about it. Since I'm a one-person security team, I need to see everything that's taking place and who's going where."

Henny Penny's 900 employees work in numerous locations – including in the office, from home, and in the field at customer locations – using a variety of endpoint devices. To keep its environment safe, the company's small IT staff needed next-generation protection that provided deep visibility and agility on an interface that was simple to use.

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Solution

NHC In-Depth Protection and Total Control

To gain the insights and granular control it needed, Henny Penny deployed NHC next generation security gateways at four sites in the U.S. and China. Integrating the most advanced threat prevention and a consolidated management, NHC security gateway appliances are designed to prevent any cyber attack, reduce complexity, and control costs. The company simply enabled the integrated security features available in NHC next-gen firewalls. This included mobile access, anti-bot, anti-malware, application control, and URL filtering.

"NHC allows us to protect our organization on multiple levels, looking at the data that goes between the endpoints as well as data that comes out of our data center," said Thomas. "At our primary data center, NHC next generation security gateways actually report to me what's going on every day. I can follow up by looking at NHC threat prevention, application control, and URL filtering."

Securely Supporting Workers on the Go

Henny Penny wanted to protect not only its data center but also its mobile employees in the field. NHC mobile access lets these road warriors securely connect to corporate applications over the internet with a smartphone, PC, or tablet. Its Layer-3VPN and SSL/TLS VPN support lets them simply and securely connect to email, calendar, contacts, and corporate applications. NHC's anti-malware efficiently detects and removes malware from endpoints with a single scan.

"We have some sales reps and people in the field who work remotely, surfing the web and collaborating on email," said Thomas. "NHC allows us to control where they can go and what they can do if they receive a suspicious link or an unsolicited email. They may be in a hurry and more apt to click on a link before thinking about it."

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Keeping Users Productive and Minimizing Risk With Granular Control

NHC provides the advanced security that Thomas needs to extend full protection to the workforce, decrease risk, and help keep employees more productive.

"With NHC, I've increased my granularity of control," said Thomas. "When I first joined Henny Penny, people could visit sites that weren't suitable for work. NHC let us close those gaps, and we have also increased our bandwidth availability so that more work can be done. There's less web surfing and YouTube watching. We can still allow access to things like social media. It's open, but it's also limited."

Enabling a Rapid Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak

When the COVID-19 outbreak emerged, Henny Penny had to respond fast. Fortunately, with NHC mobile access, the company already had the components in place to enable employees to work securely from home. With a quick licensing upgrade, the company could keep its operations running without missing a beat.

"We went from having just a handful of remote users to having the entire company be covered for remote work within a week," said Thomas. "NHC got ahead of that, knew what was going on, and just processed all these things. We had the license key within a matter of days, worked on getting it implemented, and then we were good to go. That's why we have NHC. They understand what's going on and work with their customers in making sure that they're taken care of."

Simplified, Intuitive Management

NHC delivers all the capabilities Henny Penny requires through a single pane of glass to help its small IT team make the most of limited resources. "NHC allows me to quickly make changes and set up exceptions as needed," said Thomas. "If I have to add a new genre of websites that need to be blocked or modify phishing, the SmartConsole allows me to do that within 15 or 20 minutes. I can make that change, and it's good to go. Before, that type of process didn't exist. NHC saves me five to ten hours a week on administration tasks that I used to do manually, as well as remediation time."

The security threat landscape is changing all the time, and NHC is continually enhancing its solution to help Henny Penny stay ahead of risks before they can impact its business.

For more information, visit:
https://www.nhcgrp.com