

Case Study

How a global IT consultancy uses Secude's HaloCORE to protect SAP data exports without hindering the end-user

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Background

The global IT Consultancy provides digital IT services, consulting and outsourcing to over 1,500 customers worldwide. Given the scale of its IT business and the complexity of its operations, data security is of paramount importance to the IT Consultancy. However, data protection has become increasingly difficult since the Covid-19 pandemic, which accelerated the rise of remote working, the use of cloud-based platforms and the number of smart devices used by its 200,000+ employees across the globe.

While the IT Consultancy was able to control data security on devices within the organization's network, protecting data outside of its IT perimeter was particularly challenging - especially as technology became a prime target for cyber attacks, such as phishing and insider threats.

What's more, new compliance regulations around data protection, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the EU and the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act in India, made data protection an even higher priority. The IT Consultancy therefore sought a solution to protect its data beyond its network perimeter.

The Challenge

The IT Consultancy relies on leading tech platforms to manage and protect vast amounts of data. In particular, the IT Consultancy uses the SAP S/4HANA platform to handle some of its most sensitive and business-critical

At a Glance

Vertical

Information Technology

Company

IT Consultancy

Employees

200.000+

Location

Multiple locations worldwide

Highlights

The client needed to protect its sensitive SAP data when extracted and shared externally.

HaloCORE protected the client's SAP data from the point of creation, automatically securing all SAP downloads shared within and outside its organization.

The client was able to protect nearly 20,000 data transactions without impairing its operational efficiency.

About Secude

Secude, a Microsoft and SAP Partner, is a global leader for Zero Trust data protection and data governance.

Secude has been protecting the data of Fortune 500 companies for over 25 years. Our Microsoft Purview Information Protection (MPIP) extension embeds Zero Trust protection and data governance into our customers sensitive files from creation, preventing data leakage, reputational damage and non-compliance. With branches in Europe, North America and Asia, Secude supports customers with the implementation of IT security strategies through a global network.



information, including financial, management, payment and budgeting data.

The IT Consultancy wanted to secure this SAP data when shared internally and externally - especially from third-party views or downloads - while also enabling authorized personnel to easily access the data when required. The IT Consultancy tried several stand-alone data security solutions, including a rights management system and enterprise-level information protection, but these solutions failed to provide automatic data protection from the point of creation or the necessary rule-based data encryption at the SAP user level.

In addition, the IT Consultancy wanted a powerful data security solution, which was simple to deploy, easy-to-use and integrated with existing security technologies without new infrastructure. After analyzing a range of security software, the IT Consultancy decided that Secude's HaloCORE was the only solution that met their requirements.

The Solution

HaloCORE is purpose-built to protect sensitive data extracted from SAP systems. After initially testing HaloCORE in both a stand-alone environment and in development systems, Secude configured the solution to suit the IT Consultancy's business rules before full deployment.

HaloCORE then provided the IT Consultancy with:

- Automatic protection of SAP data exports.
 HaloCORE embeds Microsoft Purview Information Protection (MPIP) directly into SAP's application layer, automatically protecting the IT Consultancy's sensitive HR and management data coming out of the SAP system, as well as providing a layer of governance on all SAP data exports.
- Authorization control beyond its perimeter network.
 HaloCORE leverages MPIP labels to automatically encrypt data with the appropriate classification. Using the business rules set by the IT Consultancy, HaloCORE assigns granular authorizations and user rights to sensitive SAP downloads, and tracks who attempts to access the data. This ensures only personnel with the right level of authorization can access the data both within and outside the IT Consultancy's perimeter network.
- Secure data access without hindering the end-user.
 HaloCORE automatically protects SAP data exports without requiring any user intervention and without affecting the end-

user experience, so encrypted data is seamlessly available to all authorized users at the IT Consultancy and its supply chain partners.

The Results

Through a direct SAP integration, HaloCORE automatically protected the IT Consultancy's extracted SAP data from unauthorized access.

In particular, HaloCORE enabled the IT Consultancy to:

- Protect SAP data exports across all internal and external devices. The IT Consultancy was particularly concerned about the rising use of unprotected mobile devices and cloud platforms, which were highly vulnerable to data breaches. As HaloCORE is integrated at the application layer, all of the IT Consultancy's sensitive SAP documents are automatically protected before and after extraction from the SAP system. As such, data protection remains intact on all mobile and cloud platforms, and when the IT Consultancy's employees share SAP data externally.
- Seamlessly and securely collaborate with third-parties. The IT Consultancy works with thousands of partners, suppliers and customers worldwide. As HaloCORE encrypts every document exported from SAP with automated classification, the IT Consultancy was able to easily and securely exchange documents with anyone inside and outside the organization - even when third-parties use different systems, servers and devices. What's more, as HaloCORE does not disrupt end-users' usual processes, the IT Consultancy was able to collaborate securely without hindering its business procedures or operational efficiency.

Securing nearly

20,000

Transactions with Zero Trust Protection



Secure nearly 20,000 transactions with Zero Trust protection. With increasing data volumes and more of its business moving away from internal network security, the IT Consultancy needed a Zero Trust solution to protect its data in transit and when shared externally. HaloCORE has embedded Zero Trust protection into almost 20,000 data transactions so far, including PA-OM transactions, time/leave transactions and payroll transactions. Thanks to the success of HaloCORE, the IT Consultancy has planned further deployments for its finance transactions.

Summary

Secude's HaloCORE for SAP security enabled the IT Consultancy to:

- Automatically protect sensitive data downloaded from SAP across mobile and cloud platforms without hindering business as usual.
- Control access to SAP downloads both inside and outside its IT perimeter with automated authorization labels.
- Secure nearly 20,000 transactions with Zero Trust protection.



'HaloCORE was the perfect solution for us. Data is automatically protected from unauthorized access. The entire project was completed without any hindrances to business as usual. We look forward to our continued relationship with Secude for data protection of our other systems.'

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Head of SAP Practice, IT Consultancy



