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Law Enforcement Office Chooses Thales Network Encryptors to Comply with CJIS Mandate

A county law enforcement organization needed a high speed encryption solution to protect their data-in-transit across their networks in order to comply with the Criminal Justice Information Services Security Policy (CJIS-SP) mandate. They required that the solution be deployed promptly prior to their upcoming audit.

The Organization

In a highly populated area, a County Sheriff's Office provides police services for more over a million residents in several cities and towns. The department oversees the county jail system, provides security at the county courthouse and international airport, and transports inmates to and from the courthouse and local hospitals. In order for almost 10,000 employees and volunteers to perform these duties, it is critical that they have continuous access to very sensitive and personally identifiable data, and for that data to be transmitted securely across different networks.

The Business Need

The FBI owns and operates the United States' Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) database, which contains national crime information critical to law enforcement agencies across the country. Previously, agencies were only required to encrypt data leaving a secure law enforcement building to a third party facility.



But a new regulation by the FBI states that law enforcement agencies transferring data between any physical locations— even internally—must now encrypt that data while in transit. This means that any agency with more than one building must implement encryption. In order to comply with this new mandate and continue to access the FBI's CJIS database, the County Sheriff's Office needed to implement a method to encrypt communications between its two facilities before their compliance audit.

The Solution

Working in conjunction with the Thales sales team, the County Sheriff's Office decided to use network encryption appliances from the Thales Data Protection portfolio. To address the data-in-transit encryption requirement, they needed a new solution to encrypt the data moving across their network without having an adverse effect on network performance (i.e. introducing network lag). They had been under the assumption that their use of a VPN was acceptable on a "private" network, but "private" does not equal encrypted. They examined IPsec but it was ineffective and complex to deploy. For their large point-to-point network installation, they chose to deploy Thales Network Encryptors (CN6100). The CN6100s offer centralized management, simple administration, drop-in compatibility to their existing networks, and easy audit reporting over multiple circuits and network protocols at any time, which greatly aligned with the County Sheriff's Office business need of "zero footprint" simplicity. The CN6100 is a versatile, highassurance, certified encryptor designed to provide up to 10 Gbps highly secure, full line rate transparent encryption of all voice, video and data communications moving across dark fibre, and metro or wide area Ethernet networks (MAN or WAN). Benefitting from the Thales high speed encryption vendor-agnostic, bump-in-thewire solution, the County Sheriff's Office was able to successfully deploy Thales Network Encryptors speedily, even without a POC, and to ensure all their data and sensitive communications, including documents, images, and VOIP systems in transit was encrypted, ensuring CJIS compliance in time for their audit.

The Benefits

Using high-assurance Thales Network Encryptors for encryption of communications in motion between their facilities provides optimal security, maximum network throughput, low latency, and also flexibility for the future.

Valuable content security. As their data-in-transit is encrypted, the County Sheriff's Office employees can now confidently share highly confidential data between their facilities knowing that that their data is only available to those authorized to access it.

High volume. Thales Network Encryptors easily handle spikes in workload as thousands of employees simultaneously access confidential data without any effect on network performance.

Low latency. Encryption takes place transparently behind the scenes.

Scalability. The County Sheriff's Office is also well equipped for future expansion. With Thales' rate-limited encryptors and flexible licensing model, they can expand their existing solutions as their network bandwidth requirements increase. This proves once again that Thales's network encryption solutions for data-in-transit are ideal to maintain the security required for a law enforcement infrastructure.

About Thales

The people you rely on to protect your privacy rely on Thales to protect their data. When it comes to data security, organizations are faced with an increasing number of decisive moments. Whether the moment is building an encryption strategy, moving to the cloud, or meeting compliance mandates, you can rely on Thales to secure your digital transformation.

Decisive technology for decisive moments.

Challenge:

The County Sheriff's Office needed to encrypt its critical data-in-transit, ensuring CJIS compliance while still maintaining network performance and simplicity.

Solution:

By encrypting data-in-transit using high-assurance Thales Network Encryptors, data being transmitted between their facilities cannot be exposed or manipulated.

Benefit:

By utlizing Thales Network Encryptors, the County Sheriff's Office, can ensure that their voice, video and data communications are secure as they share sensitive information with authorized parties in different facilities.





