eGroup | Microsoft

Modernizing Purdue University with Microsoft Defender

Close Date	OU	Industry	Org Size	Deal Highlight	Products & Services	Partner	Customer	Competition
June 2022	EDU	Higher Ed	18,000 employees	POC for MDO & MDE	MDE, MDO, EOL Protection, AV, Splunk SIEM	eGroup Enabling Technologies	Purdue University	Cisco

CHALLENGE

Purdue University aimed to maximize its investment in Microsoft A5 security features by transitioning away from legacy security solutions such as Cisco IronPort, Cisco AMP, & Trend Micro.

These tools were in use at the Fort Wayne campus but carried ongoing subscription costs and lacked native integration with Microsoft's security ecosystem.

Internal skepticism remained about whether Microsoft Defender products could match or exceed the security and feature set of their existing solutions. Purdue University needed a proof of concept (POC) to validate the effectiveness and integration capabilities of Microsoft Defender for Office (MDO) & Microsoft Defender for Endpoint (MDE).

SOLUTION

eGroup delivered a strategic and comprehensive POC covering MDO, MDE & Exchange Online Protection (EOP). The POC included:

- MDO Deployment across (3) tenants for 1,000 users.
- MDE Deployment across multiple platforms (Windows, Linux, MacOS, iOS) with Azure Role-Based Access control (RBAC) to empower decentralized IT teams.
- Security Configuration policies for onboarding, attack surface reduction, Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR), next-gen protection, and safe links/attachments.
- Real time threat detection, advanced hunting, auto-remediation, & SIEM alerting via Splunk demos.
- Migration Planning for creating a strategy to transition from Cisco AMP & Trend Micro to Microsoft Defender.

OUTCOMES

The pilot successfully onboarded (50) IT users and (24) diverse endpoint devices into production. It showcased:

- Seamless security policy implementation across platforms.
- Advanced security operations including malware response and threat hunting.
- Full SIEM integration with Splunk.
- Confidence in Microsoft's capabilities as a comprehensive security replacement, demonstrating enhanced protection and operational efficiency.

The ability to translate Purdue University's goals into a structured, outcome-driven POC ensured rapid validation, minimized disruption, and accelerated the university's move toward a cost-effective, unified security platform.

TEAM

Director of EDU – Security Specialist Midwest
Mark Dunkel

Sr. MW Specialist
Tony Almarez

Azure Sales Specialist Midwest
Sundar Ramarkrishnan

Sr. Technical Specialist
Nick Caromano

Partner
Chris Genazzio, Account Executive

Contractual Value
-$500,000 in A5 Security Uplift