

Case Study

Ulster Bank

Background

Ulster Bank are the third largest commercial bank in Ireland with over 3000 employees, 1.9 million customers and a balance sheet of over £20 billion. Founded in 1836, Ulster Bank is a subsidiary of UK headquartered Natwest, one of the top ten banks in the World. Ulster Bank currently have 146 branches in the Republic of Ireland, 90 branches in Northern Ireland, and over 1,200 non-charging ATMs.

However, the greater use of mobile brings with it challenges: how to ensure the same levels of security and compliance on devices which are used outside the network perimeter. And also, how to enable this transformation in an environment where cost containment is a key issue for all banks.

One of Corrata's key advantages is that, once installed, it works unobtrusively in the background keeping devices safe and compliant.

Tony Hamilton, Technology Oversight



The Challenge

Digital transformation is critical for Ulster Bank. It supports the organization in improving both its services to customers and the efficiency of its internal operations. Mobile devices are a key enabler of the transformation which Ulster Bank is achieving. For employees, it's about having the confidence that they can interact with colleagues and customers on digital channels. For branch operations, it's about offering a digital experience for customers who visit Ulster Bank's extensive network of retail outlets.

Employee Devices

Ulster Bank provides many of its employees with smartphones and tablets to improve productivity, collaboration and communications. Ulster Bank uses Blackberry UEM to manage and configure these devices. However, beyond the network perimeter, these devices lack the protections and controls available to traditional endpoints. This leaves them vulnerable to phishing attacks and makes it difficult to detect malware infections.



We chose Corrata because it provides the best protection against malware and phishing and ensures compliance with acceptable use policies. And, it does this without compromising employee privacy or user experience.

Ailish Galvin, Head of Technology Oversight

Branch Operations

Customers use the Android and iOS tablets provided in Ulster Bank branches to access online banking services, to open new accounts and to apply for mortgages and loans. These tablets are also used for branch operations. The tablets need to be configured in a flexible manner providing access to a wide variety of relevant sites and apps but restricting access to irrelevant, insecure or risky content. Given the variety of uses, kiosk mode or application and website whitelisting were not considered effective solutions. Corrata provides the ability to easily and simply control what was being done on the devices.

The Solution

Ulster Bank selected Corrata as the best solution to address these challenges. In particular, Ulster Bank was impressed by Corrata's unique capability to detect and defend against malicious activity which is invisible to competing solution. Corrata has been deployed across both employee devices and customer facing tablets.

In addition, it is difficult to ensure that acceptable usage policies are complied with and that risky content is not being accessed on company owned devices. Mobile anti-virus solutions can't provide the protection required and competing mobile threat defense solutions present significant privacy issues. Corrata provides comprehensive protection and control, was easy to deploy and doesn't require intrusive monitoring of employees' private information.

Results

Today, Corrata protects both branch tablets and employee devices at Ulster Bank. It stops phishing attacks over all mobile channels including email, sms, messaging apps like WhatsApp and collaboration tools such as Zoom. Malware detected by Corrata is immediately disabled and reported to the InfoSec team for remediation. Access to malware download sites and other risky or non compliant categories of content is blocked. Finally, rules around acceptable usage can be enforced without impacting on employees' ability to get the job done.

Corrata delivers immediate measurable improvement in our security posture, compliance with acceptable use policies and control over mobile threats.



Tony Hamilton, Technology Oversight



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