

VASCO's authentication solutions help Global Radio to secure remote access and to develop a long term security policy

Global Radio is UK's largest commercial radio company and the home of many leading commercial radio brands. With more than 50 locations across the country and over 18.5 million listeners on air, Global Radio covers almost every genre and geographical area in the UK. When searching for a strong authentication solution to secure remote access for its website content editors, Global Radio opted for VASCO's DIGIPASS for Mobile in combination with Virtual DIGIPASS and DIGIPASS GO 3, and IDENTIKEY Server Enterprise Edition at the back-end. VASCO's solutions were not only able to tackle occurring security challenges, but also fitted ideally in the company's long term security development policy.

A SECURITY SOLUTION FOR BRITAIN'S LEADING COMMERCIAL RADIO



Boasting the number 1, 2 and 3 commercial radio brands in the UK, Global Radio is the model of efficient, brand driven, market leading radio. The company's portfolio includes strong recognized brands such as Heart, Galaxy, 95.8 Capital FM, LBC, Classic FM, Gold and Xfm.

Global Radio hosts a vast number of websites, where people can listen to their favorite radio on air and find a lot of interesting

information. Advertising, one of the core activities of a commercial radio, also forms an important part of the websites' content. To maintain these online radio portals, Global Radio employs a large amount of content editors and technical staff working from home and keeping the websites running and up-to-date.

In 2009, Global Radio faced the need to find a suitable solution to secure remote access for the website editors working from home. The company's remote access solution became somewhat outdated and needed upgrading. Remote workers were now able to edit and upload content from any type of home pc, when before they could only do that from computers managed by the company. But allowing content editors and technical staff to access the necessary online applications from unmanaged pc's triggered the need to employ strong two-factor authentication to secure remote access. Moreover, the search for an effective security solution was limited by a strict deadline: within eight weeks, the system had to go live, so finding a suitable authentication solution became a top priority.

Global Radio evaluated several strong authentication suppliers to select one that would be able to meet the requirements set by the company. The solution needed to be effective, user-friendly, and -above all - suitable to be implemented within the deadline imposed by the starting date of the new system. The prominent presence of VASCO Data Security in the two-factor authentication market was already noticed by Global Radio, but other options were also looked at. Secon, a specialist IT security and networking service provider and VASCO's partner, recommended VASCO as a reliable strong authentication provider.

SECON RECOMMENDS VASCO AS BEST SUITED AUTHENTICATION SOLUTION

Secon has worked as a trusted advisor to Global Radio over a number of years providing advice about security solutions. Secon analyzed the security challenges of the company and realized that on this occasion, Global Radio needed an extra layer of security to further secure the existing remote access solution.

Considering the existing investments made by Global Radio – there had been several mergers and takeovers – the company required a flexible approach to security solutions and needed a mixture of both hardware and software authenticators. Secon recommended VASCO as the most appropriate and best suited solution to Global Radio's environment, helped arrange a proof of concept and ensured that a complete solution could be delivered within budget.

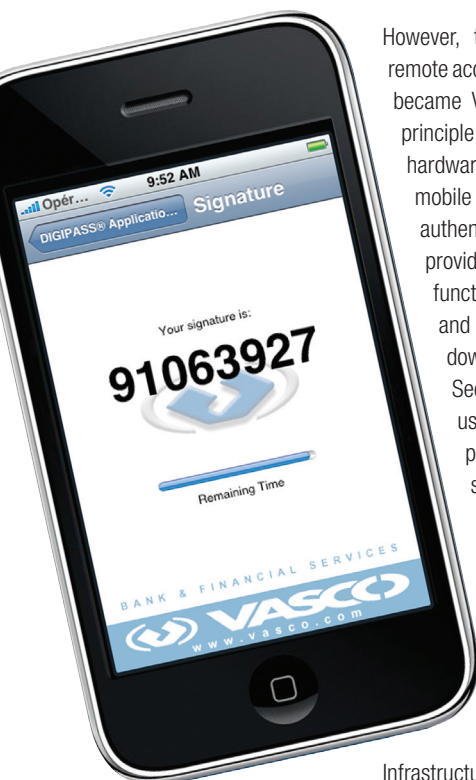
Having chosen VASCO as strong authentication provider, Global Radio opted for IDENTIKEY Server Enterprise Edition and a combination of existing DIGIPASS GO 3 from a previous purchase, Virtual DIGIPASS and DIGIPASS for Mobile authenticators at the end-user side.



IDENTIKEY is VASCO's comprehensive authentication server that supports DIGIPASS strong authentication on the back-end. IDENTIKEY Server Enterprise Edition is a convenient and simple solution, easy to implement and straightforward to use. It could be seamlessly integrated in Global Radio's existing RADIUS based remote access solution. Another benefit of IDENTIKEY Server Enterprise Edition is that it is fully customizable, which makes it highly adoptable to the lay-out requirements and needs of the customer. IDENTIKEY verifies authentication requests from remote workers trying to access Global Radio's content management system, and ensures that only authorized users gain access to the application.

DIGIPASS FOR MOBILE:FLEXIBILITY AND EASY DEPLOYMENT

The key principle of VASCO's strong authentication solutions is the replacement of weak static passwords with more secure dynamic ones. Unlike traditional static passwords, dynamic passwords or OTPs (one-time passwords) are only valid for a limited amount of time and can be used only once. Possible password abuse is thus minimized, as it becomes impossible to re-use the password even if it were intercepted. When trying to log-on to the content management system from their home pc, remote workers at Global Radio will use their hardware or software DIGIPASS authentication devices to generate an OTP. This dynamic password is then used together with the username to log on to the system in a secure and user-friendly way. The manner in which the OTP is generated depends on the type of DIGIPASS owned by the end-user. For instance, when using DIGIPASS GO 3, Global Radio's content editors will be able to generate an OTP at the push of the button of the hardware authenticator. Remote workers using Virtual DIGIPASS to log in, type in their user name and PIN. A text message containing the OTP will be immediately sent to their mobile phone.



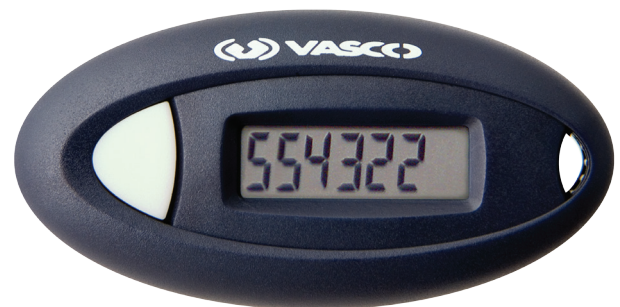
However, the main authenticator to secure remote access for Global Radio's home workers became VASCO's DIGIPASS for Mobile. The principle of OTP generation is the same as in hardware authenticators, but in this case the mobile phone of the end-user becomes the authentication device. DIGIPASS for Mobile provides strong two-factor authentication functionality to Java-enabled, Palm and Blackberry handsets. A user must download the DIGIPASS for Mobile Security Enterprise Edition software using the link sent via SMS and provided by Global Radio. Once the software is installed on the mobile phone, it can be used to generate OTPs allowing the user to securely access the application.

"DIGIPASS for Mobile is one of the main reasons we chose VASCO as a strong authentication supplier", says Ross Draper, IP Infrastructure Manager at Global Radio.

"There are a lot of benefits to using a mobile phone already in the pockets of the end users as an authentication device. You don't have to provide your employees with hardware authenticators. Managing a large amount of hardware devices can be difficult and costly, as people can lose them or break them. DIGIPASS for Mobile is a budget friendly solution: you don't have to worry about the distribution, and the authenticators can be managed centrally by the company. It is also a very-user friendly solution, as the download and employment process are very straightforward."

"We had a very tight deadline, and VASCO's DIGIPASS for Mobile allowed us to purchase and install the software authenticators on the mobile phones of our employees in time."

"However, we had already made security investments through previous mergers and acquisitions, so it would be a shame not to use the hardware authenticators as well. This explains the mixture of different authentication devices now used by Global Radio. DIGIPASS for Mobile is our main solution, as it offers more flexibility and a very soft touch way of deployment and at the same time leaves the company in control of the authenticators. DIGIPASS GO 3 and Virtual DIGIPASS are rather used as back-up or emergency solutions, in case there would be a problem with an employee's mobile phone."



VASCO'S SOLUTIONS MEET PRESENT & FUTURE AUTHENTICATION NEEDS

Besides offering an effective way to secure Global Radio's remote access solution, VASCO's authentication solutions also offer an opportunity to further develop the company's security infrastructure. The high scalability of IDENTIKEY Server Enterprise Edition, allowing to easily add more users and applications, and the flexibility of DIGIPASS for Mobile provide Global Radio with a way to use strong authentication for more purposes in the future than just remote access. Global Radio is looking into possibilities to secure other corporate resources, so they need to be sure the system will be able to deal with more users. At this point, several test users are already evaluating VASCO's solutions for larger deployment within the company.

"VASCO's solutions did not only meet all the immediate security needs of Global Radio, they also ideally fitted in the company's future security plans", says Ross Draper. "VASCO was able to offer us a cost-effective, user-friendly and uniform security solution, which has already proven its efficiency. There are already over 40 home workers using DIGIPASS for Mobile, and this far there have been not any incompatibility issues or questions about deployment from end-users. VASCO's authentication solution offers Global Radio and our employees working from home more security, more flexibility and a user-friendly way to access the content management system."

Objective

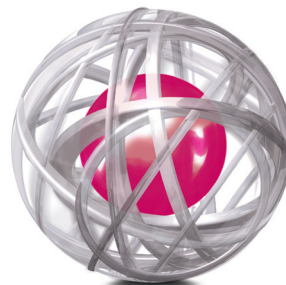
Global Radio was looking for an effective, cost-effective and user-friendly authentication solution to secure remote access for website content editors working from home. The solution needed not only to meet Global Radio's immediate authentication needs, but also had to be suited for future larger deployments within the company.

Challenge

Global Radio had already made prior investments, and therefore required a flexible approach to authentication devices and needed a mixture of both hardware and software authenticators. The solutions had to fit seamlessly within the infrastructure of the company's remote access solution, and needed to be scalable for potential future use of other applications. Moreover, the system had to be up and running within eight weeks.

Solution

Secon, Global Radio's security solutions advisor, recommended VASCO as the most appropriate and best suited solution for Global Radio's security infrastructure. VASCO's IDENTIKEY Server Enterprise Edition at the back-end and a combination of DIGIPASS for Mobile, Virtual DIGIPASS and DIGIPASS GO 3 at the end-user side, allowed Global Radio to quickly implement the authentication solutions within the limits of the tight deadline. The scalability and the flexibility of the solution also provide Global Radio with the opportunity to expand strong authentication to other company applications in the future.



IDENTIKEY

About Global Radio



Global Radio is UK's largest commercial radio company and the home of the UK's leading commercial radio brands. Based in London's Leicester Square with stations and hubs in over 50 locations across the UK, and 18.5 million listeners on air, Global Radio covers every genre and geographical area with simplicity and clarity for both the listener and the advertiser. Global Radio boasts the number 1, 2 and 3 commercial radio brands in the UK, with Heart, Classic FM and Galaxy respectively.

About Secon

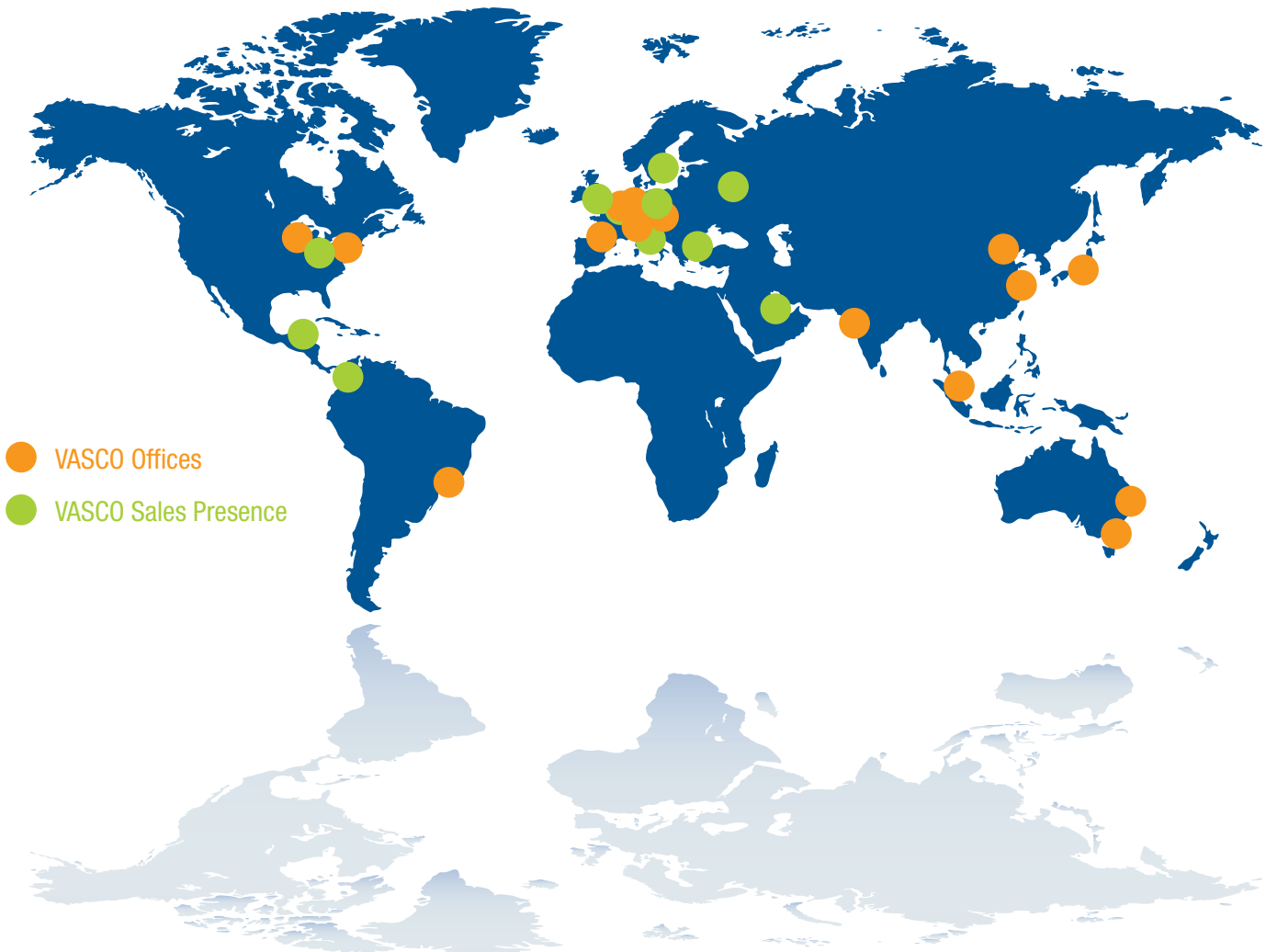


Secon is an IT security specialist and networking service provider. Located in the UK and Mexico, Secon provides its clients with business enabling security and networking solutions. Secon's range of CARE Contracts ensures that systems are consistently operating at optimum levels, delivering the best possible results and reducing operating and capital costs for its clients.

About VASCO

VASCO is a leading supplier of strong authentication and e-signature solutions and services specializing in Internet Security applications and transactions. VASCO has positioned itself as global software company for Internet Security and designs, develops, markets and supports patented DIGIPASS®, DIGIPASS PLUS®, VACMAN®, IDENTIKEY® and aXsGUARD® authentication products. VASCO's prime markets are the financial sector, enterprise security, e-commerce and e-government.

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www.vasco.com

**CORPORATE HQ
CHICAGO**
 phone: +1 630 932 8844
 info-usa@vasco.com

**INTERNATIONAL HQ
ZURICH (Europe)**
 phone: +41 43 555 3500
 email: info-europe@vasco.com

BRUSSELS (Europe)
 phone: +32 2 609 97 00
 email: info-europe@vasco.com

BOSTON (North America)
 phone: +1 508 366 34 00
 email: info-usa@vasco.com

SYDNEY (Pacific)
 phone: +61 2 8061 3700
 email: info-australia@vasco.com

SINGAPORE (Asia)
 phone: + 65 6323 09 06
 email: info-asia@vasco.com