

Netwrix Customer Success Story



CUSTOMER

The Donohoe Companies, Inc.

WEBSITE

www.donohoe.com

INDUSTRY

Real Estate, Construction

SOLUTION

Change Auditing

PRODUCT

Netwrix Auditor

PROFILE

Founded in 1884, The Donohoe Companies is the oldest full-service real estate organization in the Washington, DC region. Donohoe has developed and built billions of dollars of Washington's premier office, hotel, retail, industrial and residential projects. The company's work includes hospital, university and government facilities, schools, embassies and landmark mixed-use developments.

Large Private Real Estate Company Increases Data Security and Accountability in Their IT Environment with Netwrix Auditor

“*Netwrix products are solid and easy to configure out. Moreover, with Netwrix daily reports I have been able to detect the problems in the early stage and sustain security, avoid downtime and data breaches.*”

- Jon Dobson,

Network Administrator,

the Donohoe Companies Inc., USA

Challenge: Lack of File Server Data Oversight, Security and Accountability within a Continually Changing IT Environment 24x7

IT data security and accountability challenges faced by midsize organizations such as the Donohoe Companies result from a lack of tracking changes within their IT environment, and these are essentially the same challenges also encountered by enterprise-level organizations. The challenges include the inability to oversee and control what is happening across the IT infrastructure, prevent security breaches and failed compliance audits.

Midsize organizations, however, often have an additional challenge of limited IT resources and have to find an efficient way to tackle those challenges. Donohoe acknowledged this fact and embraced the need for a third-party [file server reporting](#) and [Active Directory auditing](#), as the native tools did not provide the IT department with sufficient level of information, meaningful reports and long-term archiving. Native tools can hold no more than a week of audit records which was too limited, taking into account that there was no centralized audit data archive.

"We were asked to see primarily who changed what on a File Server, when and where. Additionally, we were required to track when a specific account had logged in over the past month. At the time, the longest records we had available were for 7 days and no file auditing capabilities," explained Jon Dobson, Network Administrator at the Donohoe Companies.

Solution: Streamlined Solution for Active Directory User Logon Activity and File Server Auditing with Long-Term Archiving

Donohoe's IT department was required to deliver the level of security and reporting that built-in Microsoft tools could not provide. A wide range of third-party competing solutions was considered, including both freeware and trial versions of commercial tools: "We looked into several different potential solutions, some free, others were not," confirmed Mr. Dobson.

A number of shortlisted vendor tools were tested in action and Netwrix solutions passed the ultimate test as they have the core functionality to resolve Donohoe's key challenges while being easy to use, efficient and with an attractive price point. "The key factors here were ease of use, separate log storage, long-term log storage and organization of the logs, and the ability to easily create a report on specific users/items," clarified Jon Dobson.

Netwrix Auditor was able to provide Donohoe with an ability to track and report on Active Directory user logon/logoff activity, by automatically consolidating and archiving all types of logon events from all Active Directory domain controllers. Netwrix Auditor for File Servers was able to audit changes and access to file servers including changes and access attempts to files, folders, shares, and permissions.

The entire deployment process took roughly four months since the first decision to start testing third-party solutions until the final implementation of the Netwrix product. The deployment process was very straightforward and the Quick Start Guide (available for download from the Netwrix website) certainly made a positive contribution towards a smooth process. "Deployment was easy with the step-by-step guide," stated Mr. Dobson.

Apart from the software itself, the Netwrix technical support team received a high rating from the Donohoe Companies: "Sales, product demonstration and technical support teams were very helpful and informative. They were able to answer all my questions," indicated Jon Dobson.

Proven Results: Increased Data Security and Accountability with Netwrix Solutions

Once the Netwrix Auditor was up and running, Donohoe's IT department witnessed a positive impact in virtually no time. According to Donohoe, the Netwrix auditing platform does exactly what it says on the tin: monitors and reports on 'before and after' values for each file, folder and permission change, as well as provides long-term archiving capability for data storage up to seven years and beyond for historical reporting and compliance needs. "We now have a long term storage of logins and audits with the ability to produce a report on specific files/users/computers," confirmed Jon, Network Administrator at Donohoe.

Another useful Netwrix feature that was put to good use by the Donohoe IT team is automatic email reporting to see what is going on with files, folders and permissions across the IT environment. Prior to deployment of Netwrix Auditor, extracting this information was frankly too complicated and time-consuming. So it was no surprise why the Netwrix advanced reporting feature turned out to be one of the keys to a safe and sound IT infrastructure: "The SMTP feature allows reports to be delivered to my inbox every morning, which allows me to know about certain problems before they are problems," explained Mr. Dobson.

Donohoe is now able to answer the '4 W' questions of 'who changed what, where and when' in File Server and access events. Netwrix Logon Reporter enabled Donohoe to consolidate and archive logon events from all Active Directory domain controllers. Consequently, the company has been able to gain complete data visibility, increase data security and accountability. Mr. Dobson further explained: "Netwrix Logon Reporter and Netwrix Auditor for File Servers allow us to answer the questions "When has this guy logged in?" and "Who could have made this change?" which are important when files go missing."

Having achieved Donohoe's main goals of tightened IT security and accountability within the organization, the IT department was fully satisfied with Netwrix Auditor, underlining its ease of use and functionality. "I would recommend Netwrix change auditing solution to someone who does not have the time to sort through thousands of log entries over weeks, months, years, or a day for more intense operations, and someone who wants the ability to quickly create an easy-to-read PDF document of the information they need to pass on," concluded Jon Dobson.

About Netwrix Corporation

Netwrix Corporation is the #1 provider of change auditing software, offering the most simple, efficient and affordable IT infrastructure auditing solutions with the broadest coverage of audited systems and applications available today. Founded in 2006, Netwrix has grown to offer products that are used by more than a hundred thousand of companies worldwide. The company is headquartered in Irvine, California, with regional offices in New Jersey, Ohio, Georgia and the UK.

Netwrix Corporation, 20 Pacifica,
Suite 625, Irvine, CA 92618, US

Regional offices:
New York, Atlanta, Columbus, London



Toll-free: 888-638-9749

Int'l: +1 (949) 407-5125

EMEA: +44 (0) 203-318-0261