



International Energy Company Hardens Defenses Against Digital Supply Chain Attacks

"After working with Cyberpion for over a year, we are confident that its Ecosystem Security platform gives us the critical visibility we need to solve the difficult challenge of managing the risks and vulnerabilities in our entire digital supply chain."

— René Rindermann, CISO
E.ON

THE CHALLENGE

E.ON, a European electric utility company based in Essen, Germany, operates one of the world's largest investor-owned electric utility. The company employs 80,000+ people and serves 53 million customers across 30 countries.

E.ON's cyber security team recognized the need to proactively expand their processes and procedures to protect their organization and customers from potential data loss via their third-party online ecosystem. To support the initiative E.ON identified a key strategic task: understand the risks they are exposed to as part of their external attack surface.

E.ON's external attack surface includes both their owned and directly managed assets, as well as the third-party IT assets that are owned and managed by vendors and partners. E.ON's attack surface had steadily grown as it incorporated these vendors' products and capabilities to deliver best-in-class service and support to its customers. As the E.ON team began to consider the full extent of this online ecosystem and the possible threats E.ON was exposed to. E.ON's team understood the critical need of getting a clear picture of this vast ecosystem and was a key solution requirement.

Executive Summary

Customer Type:

Electric Utility Service Provider

Industry:

Energy

Business Challenge

- Reduce cyber risk of Nth-party vendor and partner relationships

Solution

- Pro-active visibility of the online ecosystem to prevent security breaches

Business Results

- Identification and remediation of existing vulnerabilities not seen by other security tools
- Automated discovery and mitigation of discovered vulnerabilities reduces security team's workload

THE SOLUTION

While investigating solutions to support this initiative, E.ON identified Cyberpion's Ecosystem Security platform as a strong candidate. Exploring Cyberpion's capabilities included a full Proof-of-Concept product demonstration. Cyberpion's solution is delivered as a web-based SaaS portal and required no installation, configuration, or modification to E.ON's existing IT. Because of the speed at which the PoC was deployed, E.ON was able to immediately gain valuable actionable insights into their online ecosystem.

Two of Cyberpion's core capabilities were identified as key solution requirements for E.ON's project. First, Cyberpion's ability to continuously discover and inventory not only E.ON's internet-facing assets and their direct suppliers' assets they rely on, but also the long chains of 4th, 5th, etc vendor and partner relationships. This was key to getting a true understanding all the possible risk they may be exposed to.

Once the true size and scope of the ecosystem was understood, E.ON saw the need for a second key solution requirement. E.ON needed a method for identifying and prioritizing any risks within these to maximize the staff resources dedicated to protecting and managing this attack surface. Cyberpion's ability to combine a multi-layered risk and vulnerability assessment of Web, Cloud, DNS and PKI infrastructures minimized false positives and noise while prioritizing the most critical vulnerabilities. E.ON team members found the insights from Cyberpion improved their efficiency, as well as, their effectiveness.

When combined, the ability to inventory the entire attack surface and present the risk assessment data in an actionable format, made Cyberpion the solution of choice for E.ON.

OUTCOMES

Using Cyberpion's Ecosystem Security platform has allowed E.ON to pre-emptively act on vulnerabilities. By acting before hackers are able to exploit these vulnerabilities E.ON has been able to prevent significant damage in terms of dollars, brand reputation, or customer trust and loyalty. E.ON's role as a critical energy supplier makes this pre-emptive approach to cyber security even more critical.

"Cyberpion's approach to external attack surface management allows my team to go on offense. We are now able to actively seek, find and fix critical threats from this dynamic and vast digital environment before they impact our organization and our customers."

— René Rindermann, CISO
E.ON



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Cyberpion, the Ecosystem Security™ company, is a pioneer in the new ecosystem cybersecurity paradigm, defending the new and vast attack surface created by online ecosystems. Cyberpion enables organizations to see and manage their online ecosystem and protect them from vulnerabilities as it continues to expand. The Cyberpion platform systematically tracks, analyzes and maintains the vast inventory of known and unknown assets and their connections throughout an organization's far-reaching ecosystem, to continuously identify and neutralize vulnerabilities before attackers can exploit them. To learn more, visit cyberpion.com.

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