

Turkish Bank Confidently Embraces Virtualization

Yapi Kredi builds Trend Micro™ Deep Security into VMware environment to maximize returns on data center investments.

“Only one solution—Trend Micro Deep Security—met all of our technical and business requirements. It integrates with VMware, preserves performance, and protects physical, virtual, and cloud servers, giving us the flexibility we need to meet our business objectives.”

—Levend Abay, IT Security Manager, Yapi Kredi

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Customer Name: Yapi Kredi
Industry: Finance
Location: Levent-Istanbul Besiktas, Turkey
Web site: www.yapikredi.com.tr
Number of Employees: 17,000

CHALLENGE:

- Maximize virtual server consolidation
- Secure the virtual environment with strict controls, in support of compliance with payment card industry (PCI) regulations and in support of the company's commitment to customer privacy
- Introduce a security solution that is simple as well as extensible across virtual and cloud platforms

SOLUTION:

- Trend Micro Deep Security

BUSINESS RESULTS:

- Excellent performance results, with no degradation of important business applications and servers
- Ability to achieve the desired level of server consolidation to meet the return on investment goals for virtualization
- Confidence that virtualized environments have strict security controls in place, in compliance with industry regulations
- Long-term security vision that aligns with the trend towards virtualization and cloud
- Ease of management that avoids any upsurge in operating costs

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Challenge

Yapi Kredi has pioneered unique approaches in the banking sector, including early adoption of computers back in the 1960s and online banking applications in the 1980s. More recently, the company's leadership has included the introduction of mobile point of sale (POS) solutions, systemic methods for creative customer loyalty programs, establishing new standards for single-brand worldwide credit card services, and addressing the needs of hearing-impaired customers.

Over the last couple of years, a virtualization initiative has been carried out at Yapi Kredi with the goal of consolidating servers and reducing operating costs. Security became a critical requirement since the applications and tasks targeted for virtualization included web site hosting, database management, extranet servers, and credit card transaction servers. Yapi Kredi took advantage of physical network segmentation, firewalls, and intrusion prevention solutions, while also recognizing the need for security designed to meet the unique requirements of virtualized environments. In addition, secured virtual servers would need to ensure a smooth transition to future cloud computing—with self-defending virtual machines that could be moved into a cloud environment.

Solution

The choice of VMware for its virtualization technology led to a follow-on proof of concept (POC) to evaluate security solutions within this specific environment. “Our technical requirements included simplicity—we didn't want to introduce a security solution that would complicate management,” said Dr. Ihsan Cakmakli, IT security expert at Yapi Kredi. “We carried out an extensive security POC, to evaluate capabilities and complexity, and compare security solutions based on performance and availability.”

In addition to the technical requirements, other business considerations included PCI compliance, support for cost-effective server consolidation, and long-term alignment with the bank's goals and vision.

“Our server consolidation efforts have been underway for a few years. It was important to choose a security solution that would help us get the best return on our investments in virtualization,” said Levend Abay, IT security manager, Yapi Kredi. “Only one solution—Trend Micro Deep Security—met all of our technical and business requirements. It integrates with VMware, preserves performance, and protects physical, virtual, and cloud servers, giving us the flexibility we need to meet our business objectives.”

Trend Micro Deep Security leverages the threat intelligence of the Trend Micro™ Smart Protection Network™ infrastructure. This next-generation innovation combines sophisticated cloud-based reputation technology, feedback loops, and the expertise of TrendLabsSM researchers to deliver real-time protection from emerging threats.

As part of a broad enterprise security portfolio, Deep Security gives Yapi Kredi the confidence that Trend Micro can meet their future needs. “The Trend Micro vision and other solutions like Trend Micro SecureCloud give us confidence about being able to take advantage of evolving virtualization and cloud technologies,” said Mr. Abay. “Trend Micro is helping us protect our server virtualization today and will secure our journey to the cloud in the future.”

The Trend Micro relationship with VMware also contributed to the selection of Deep Security. “VMware’s recommendation of Deep Security was important—a solution that is well integrated with our virtualization technology increases the value of our overall infrastructure,” explained Dr. Cakmakli.

Yapi Kredi’s data center is now protected by Deep Security, including the solution’s intrusion defense/prevention capabilities, file integrity management, and PCI compliance features.

Results

The initial Deep Security deployment has been carried out successfully. “We are happy with the performance of Deep Security,” said Dr. Cakmakli. “We continually evaluate it based on our metrics, and we do not see any performance degradations or negative effects from the agents. Even so, we are doing a POC on the agentless antivirus capabilities offered with Deep Security, and we will be able to take advantage of that option if we need a lighter-weight security solution as we continue to virtualize our environment.”

The excellent performance of the Deep Security solution, together with its minimal impact on applications and servers, helps Yapi Kredi maximize the return on investments in virtualization by achieving their server consolidation ratio objectives. “Deep Security allows us to put more virtual machines on each physical server, and therefore increase the utilization of our VMware ESX servers,” said Dr. Cakmakli.

“Today, we feel that our VM environments are safer with the introduction of Deep Security,” said Mr. Abay. “We have the ability to implement strict security controls, and in terms of our overall data center network, we now have a simple, extensible environment.”

Introducing strong security was accomplished while meeting the objective for management simplicity. “Management of Deep Security is very easy—we can monitor everything and make any changes we need using the GUI,” said Dr. Cakmakli. “At Yapi Kredi, we have a relatively small team managing a lot of different systems. We were concerned that the management of an additional security solution could increase our operating costs, but that did not happen. The cost of ownership for the Trend Micro solution is very low compared to other products. Deep Security allows us to automate day-to-day tasks, schedule scans and updates as well as other activities to keep things simple and effective. Deep Security also integrates with vCenter, which gives us additional efficiencies. And we know we can deploy Deep Security into a cloud-computing environment and consolidate management with our current virtual deployments.”

With Trend Micro Deep Security, Yapi Kredi is able to maximize its returns on investments in virtualization by preserving performance, increasing consolidation ratios, and simplifying management. This secure virtualization environment also gives them a foundation for future cloud computing initiatives, enabling Yapi Kredi to continue to evolve their data center over time to meet their business objectives.

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—Ihsan Cakmakli, IT Security Expert, Yapi Kredi

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

Company’s main data center
100 servers, including 10 VMware ESX hosts
VMware 4.1, vCenter
Trend Micro Deep Security 7.5

Company Profile

As the first national private bank of Turkey, Yapi Kredi aims to become the undisputed leader of the financial sector in Turkey. Established as a private bank in 1944, Yapi Kredi is Turkey’s first national-scale bank characterized with a unique approach and technology leadership. With a focus on construction loans that help customers build credit, the company embraces practices that maintain fairness, protect customer privacy, and build trust between stakeholders.

Trend Micro Security

- **Trend Micro Deep Security**
<http://us.trendmicro.com/us/solutions/enterprise/security-solutions/virtualization/deep-security/index.html>

Trend Micro Enabling Technology

- **Trend Micro Smart Protection Network**
<http://us.trendmicro.com/us/trendwatch/core-technologies/smart-protection-network/>



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