

Case Study

IRONSCALES Secured the Email for a Global Shipping Company



“Phishing attacks are becoming more and more sophisticated all the time – the problem is identifying them. By using a tool with this intelligence, we discover things we hadn’t discovered before with our standard solution.”

ROTSHAS SHMULIK, CISO AT ZIM

Challenges

- Increased phishing attacks targeting the shipping industry
- Spear phishing and other types of advanced phishing attacks were becoming increasingly frequent due to ZIM’s global nature
- No way of reporting phishing attempts

Solution

- IRONSCALES- the AI-driven, self-learning email security platform
- Phishing training and simulation platform

Results (Weekly)

- After an initial first filter with another email protection product, IRONSCALES inspects approximately 7 million emails per week
- Hundreds of mails found to be phishing during second filter

About ZIM Integrated Shipping

ZIM Integrated Shipping Services is a leading independent carrier in the global container shipping industry and one of the ten biggest shipping organizations in the world. Founded over 75 years ago, ZIM operates across every part of the globe, providing customers with innovative seaborne transportation and logistics services. ZIM’s position as a digital-oriented global carrier allows them to provide intelligent shipping solutions and unmatched reliability, all with a personalized, customer-centric approach.

The Problem

Phishing attacks targeting shipping companies are on the rise, with cyberattacks increasing by 400% since February 2020¹. The problem has become so widespread that the U.S Coast Guard has started releasing cybersecurity safety alerts for vessels². ZIM was experiencing a steady barrage of increasingly sophisticated and financially motivated spear phishing emails - including attacks that used accurate domain names to impersonate senior staff. These highly complex phishing attacks made it difficult for ZIM employees to determine which emails were phishing and which were genuine. Prior to implementing IRONSCALES, ZIM relied solely on one solution to protect the company against phishing attacks. While the product efficiently blocked spam and malware, it could not detect advanced phishing attacks. The original solution also did not allow employees to report the phishing emails, making it difficult for the ZIM security team to identify, track, and report on phishing attacks.



“At ZIM we work around the clock, so it’s great to know that other parts of the business have received and deleted phishing attempts before I even start my workday.

ROTSHAS SHMULIK,
CISO AT ZIM

ZIM required a more advanced email security solution that could not only identify malicious emails, but also easily track, report, and share details about phishing attempts. They needed a solution that was easy to manage, run forensics on, and, crucially, for employees of all technical abilities to understand. ZIM also wanted a solution that leveraged artificial intelligence and machine learning to identify phishing emails that were slipping through existing defenses.

Solution

ZIM started using IRONSCALES’ automated phishing technology in 2015, equipping their team with sophisticated phishing analysis, mitigation, and remediation at the click of a button. The solution also provided employee simulation and training functionality that allowed the security team to improve phishing awareness throughout the company. ZIM was excited that the IRONSCALES solution provided both email protection and security awareness training as a single, integrated solution. ZIM originally selected IRONSCALES because of the simulated phishing training and awareness functionality. After onboarding the IRONSCALES solution, ZIM quickly recognized that the anti-phishing capabilities included with the IRONSCALES platform could quickly discover more phishing attacks than the other email security solution providers they had tried. As a cloud-based solution, IRONSCALES was simple to implement, with no physical installation or infrastructure needed. This was a major selling point for ZIM, who wanted to prioritize ease of use and set-up.

Outcomes

Since implementing the IRONSCALES solution, ZIM employees have been able to identify and report on incoming phishing attempts instantly and effortlessly, as well as share this information throughout the organization and to the greater IRONSCALES customer base known as the Community. Reporting on suspected or confirmed events was a capability that ZIM did not have before using IRONSCALES and is now one of the most vital aspects of their email security defenses. IRONSCALES’ anti-phishing capabilities provided ZIM with a second layer of security on top of their existing gateway tool. This additional layer of defense helped to significantly reduce the amount of time spent on phishing-related attacks, making the jobs of the CISO and SOC team much easier. Thanks to the IRONSCALES solution, ZIM has lowered its overall security risk exposure across its employee and client base.

ZIM has also benefitted from the IRONSCALES' Community (Federation), a democratized threat intelligence platform providing ZIM with an early warning system composed of thousands of IRONSCALES customers worldwide. The Community quickly identifies newly detected zero-day attacks in the wild, protecting against these new threats before they can adversely affect anyone.

“IRONSCALES isn't just a product that you implement and after five years you have the same product. It's always evolving and adding new capabilities as things are changing.”

ROTSHAS SHMULIK, CISO AT ZIM

ZIM uses the IRONSCALES phishing training and educational tools to regularly test their employees and provide them with the awareness needed to recognize advanced phishing attacks. This has allowed the ZIM team to improve employee awareness of phishing, helping both technical and non-technical staff to recognize and report attacks.

ZIM has found IRONSCALES' regular security and functionality updates easy to install. The IRONSCALES customer success team is highly responsive in answering questions and fixing issues around the clock, which is critical to keeping ZIM's global operations secure. ZIM has noted a significant increase in employee productivity and profitability, with employees able to focus on driving the business forward. As the second layer email security tool, IRONSCALES now inspects approximately 7 million emails per week within ZIM's network, blocking or deleting around 12,000 phishing and spam emails automatically.

“IRONSCALES is a great solution, and we see a great benefit from working with it. We are always awaiting new capabilities and opportunities to work with them.”

ROTSHAS SHMULIK, CISO AT ZIM





Looking Ahead

ZIM has seen great success thus far with IRONSCALES and the two companies continue to work together closely to identify, design, and deploy new capabilities. By making improvements to the educational capabilities of the solution, IRONSCALES are helping ZIM to constantly upskill employees on phishing identification.

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ROTSHAS SHMULIK, CISO AT ZIM

About IRONSCALES

Every day criminals launch billions of new phishing attacks. No company is immune. Legacy solutions can't keep up & cloud providers struggle to stop advanced attacks with native controls. IRONSCALES' powerfully simple email security solution helps you fight back fast and keeps your company safe in today's cloud-first world. Incubated inside the world's top venture program for cybersecurity and founded by alumni of the Israeli Defense Forces' elite Intelligence Technology unit, we offer security professionals an AI-driven, self-learning email security platform that provides a comprehensive solution to proactively fight phishing attacks.

¹ <https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/92541-maritime-industry-sees-400-increase-in-attempted-cyberattacks-since-february-2020>

² <https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ncas/current-activity/2019/07/08/us-coast-guard-releases-cybersecurity-measures-commercial-vessels>

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ABOUT SRC CYBER SOLUTIONS LLP

At SRC Cyber Solutions LLP, we provide NexGen, Highly Automated and User-Friendly solutions in partnership with IRONSCALES with the POWER OF NOW for Comprehensive NexGen Email Security, THREATX for NexGen WAAP (WAFF++) with an Attack-Centric approach and Cyber Security Training with Project Ares by CIRCADENCE CORPORATION for Online Simulation based Cyber Security Training.

ARPR Case Study

