

Client

Kentucky Community & Technical College System

Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS) is a governing entity overseeing 16 community colleges and 70 campuses across Kentucky. KCTCS was created in 1998 to standardize and unify the state's community college system. KCTCS hosts over 106,000 students and 10,000 faculty members. As the largest provider of postsecondary education in the state, their main mission is to give Kentuckians easier, more affordable access to higher education.

Challenge

The main challenge KCTCS faced was a lack of visibility. Colleges within the System had their own IT and security teams working disparately for each individual college as opposed to the larger organization. KCTCS needed to implement a security solution to gain visibility into each college's environment and roughly 5000 network devices.

The security kit they relied on was also quite cumbersome and lacked the agility necessary to streamline tasks since it required a high level of technical knowledge over a variety of products. They had attempted to deploy a Security Information and Event Monitoring (SIEM) tool, but the product wasn't robust enough to handle all of the traffic they received.

KCTCS

- + 16 colleges
- + 70 campuses
- + 106k students
- + 10k faculty
- + 1000 network devices

Types of Equipment

- + Network switches
- + Network routers
- + Security devices
- + Cloud platforms
- + Windows and Linux Endpoints

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Solution

Volta recommended a managed SIEM platform which would allow KCTCS to aggregate and access all of their data for security intelligence and threat hunting. Initially, we planned to transition into their environment slowly by first standing up a new SIEM solution alongside theirs. However, once we completed that task, our SIEM tool was ingesting and parsing the same data with a much smaller footprint, allowing us the phase out their old SIEM tool entirely.

Volta proposed to configure a passive Intrusion Detection System (IDS) as well as build the following visualizations:

- + Firewall dashboard
- + Network dashboard
- + VPN dashboard
- + NetFlow dashboard
- + IPS/SEG/SWG dashboard
- + AD, logins, group changes, lockouts dashboard

KCTCS decided to utilize a hosted infrastructure at The Center for Rural Development's Data Center in order to lower their overall cost and achieve economies of scale. This would allow them to use encrypted tunnels over high speed private connections to ship data from all around the state of Kentucky to one centralized location.

Results

KCTCS now has a streamlined and efficient security solution through Volta's recommendation and implementation of a managed SIEM tool, which condensed information from all of the tools they were using into a single platform. KCTCS can now access their data through their site-to-site VPN with The Center for Rural Development.

Volta performs ongoing monitoring of SIEM policy reporting:

- + Reporting of Guest Wireless activity in 70 locations
- + Visibility into Windows endpoint applications and events using Wazuh and Sysmon integration
- + Alerting, dashboards and visualizations derived from 5000+ Windows endpoints and the entire KCTCS network infrastructure
- + Logging and reporting of ALL campus network devices

With full end-to-end network visibility into every location, threat hunting analytics can be performed on all of their data.

Proactively secure your organization's data across your entire infrastructure.

About CRD

The Center's Data Center is native to KentuckyWired and offers low latency access to the KentuckyWired network. KentuckyWired is a high-speed, high-capacity fiber network capable of handling real time security transactions. The Center's 2,900 square foot biometrically protected and secured Data Center offers Hardware-as-a-Service (HaaS) utilizing Dell EMC VxRail and more. CRD also provides cloud services to schools and commercial entities.

About Volta

We enable businesses to overcome their technology challenges by designing customized data center and cybersecurity solutions to meet the demands of a modern IT transformation.

Custom Solutions

At Volta, we understand the complexities of heterogeneous environments, which is why we strive to orchestrate and implement solutions catered for your specific business objectives. Volta partners with a wide breadth of technology companies, so we're not locked into one vendor or product, and we'll be honest with our recommendations.

Long-Term Relationships

We want to earn your business for the long-term. Many of our client relationships have been formed over two decades. We firmly advocate for our clients and in doing so, earn their trust. When something goes wrong, our people are right there, working into the wee hours until the problem is resolved.

Flexible

Our clients experience a true 'ease of doing business,' when working with us. An organization of our size is free from the processing headaches or procedural obstructions that come with larger company engagements. Our sales and services teams are committed to the highest level of accessibility and responsiveness. We will do everything within our power to ensure the technologies that support your business are continuously operating smoothly.

Industry-Leading Talent

An abundance of expertise and experience is not always easy to come by in our industry. Volta is constantly searching for talent and has created one of the strongest technology teams in the region. Our engineers are required to accrue and update a broad spectrum of certifications. Our team's skillset is vast and competitive to meet the challenges of an endlessly evolving industry.

