

ThreatX Protects Biotech Company's Websites from Advanced Attacks



Industry | Healthcare

The Challenge

A fast-growing biotech company focused on developing and bringing to market novel cancer treatment therapy initially needed a simple but powerful application protection solution that could protect their corporate website from online attacks. As the organization grew and began to commercialize new oncology products and services, the security team realized that they needed a solution to protect their growing catalog of sites that managed clinical trial information, health care provider registration, and more, from a growing list of increasingly dynamic threat actors.

"We went from one static site to dozens of sites very quickly that varied with everything from employee information for benefits, to information about trials and drug research and development."



As a CISO, knowing that my team doesn't have to spend time worrying about attacks against dozens of our websites is a huge relief for me. I'm confident we have the right technology and the right people watching that even if something bad does happen, ThreatX has our back.

**- Chief Information Security Officer
Biotech Company**



NETWORK SOLUTION



ThreatX API and Web Application Protection Platform

CRITICAL ISSUES



- As the organization grew and began to commercialize new oncology products and services, the security team realized that they needed a solution to protect their growing catalog of sites

RESULTS



- 24/7 SOC team an extension of internal team
- Proactive risk-based blocking
- Ease of management and reporting

“Once we went commercial and became FDA-approved, everything changed to accommodate for new labeling requirements, reporting for pharmacovigilance, and safety for adverse events—all driving the need for multiple sites and multiple purposes.” When the CISO considered market options, he opted for a known and trusted solution like ThreatX rather than further exploring alternative solutions.

Extension of the Team

The biotech company’s information security officer considers the ThreatX SOC team to be an extension of their own team. “The 24/7 SOC is a big part of why we’ve enjoyed working with ThreatX over the years. We don’t have a lot of interaction with the ThreatX SOC from a day-to-day perspective. But when we needed to engage them, they were always there and responsive. The 24/7 SOC is essentially an extension of my own team. They’re experts in our field, and they’re dedicated to monitoring bots and bad actors, tracking them and alerting the security team only when necessary. Getting that additional protection, that additional security bench strength gives my small team an extra boost.”

Easily Investigate Security and Operational Events

With the ThreatX solution, the security team could quickly and easily dig into security and operational events to analyze performance issues. It was important to see where malicious traffic was coming from, to report on different types of attacks, and to be able to communicate the targets.

An information security analyst on the team noted that, “We had a few directly targeted attacks that dropped around the same time as news articles were being published about the company.

Through the investigation, we found that we were being hit three hours after a news article was published. As we were seeing those attacks, ThreatX blocked them, giving me time to dig into the data, and I worked with the ThreatX SOC to permanently block those attackers.”

Proactive, Risk-based Blocking

For this biotech firm’s lean security team, having a solution that was easy to use and didn’t create additional manual work was key to their success. “The proactive, risk-based blocking is another key benefit for me when working with the ThreatX technology because it doesn’t require much manual work,” said the lead security engineer. “I liked the proactive blocking because our opinion is that I’d rather stop everything that’s suspicious, then reverse it later if I have to. I’ve never had to manually block something or have the SOC manually block because of the technology’s accuracy and three strikes before you’re out approach of not requiring any intervention.”

Ease of Management and Reporting

The chief information security officer highlighted that he regularly used ThreatX reports to communicate improvements in the organization’s protection mechanisms to numerous internal committees and leadership. When setting up the ThreatX solution, the lead security engineer stated, “I like using ThreatX specifically because it’s a fire-and-forget solution. We deployed the sensor. I managed the SSL certs and configured DNS, then I left it alone.” The ease of management and access of information helped their chief information security officer explain to the organization’s leadership the increase the awareness of threats and risk across their web presence.



ThreatX by A10 Networks

An Integrated Cloud Platform for Application and API Protection

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