

Case Study:

Acadian Ambulance | Cybersecurity

GDS helps regional healthcare and emergency services provider reduce costs, complexity and risk by consolidating its cybersecurity environment.

About Acadian Ambulance

Acadian Ambulance provides a wide range of healthcare services, including emergency, nonemergency and special needs transportation, to more than 74 parishes and counties in Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and Tennessee. The company employs more than 4,000 people, maintains a fleet of more than 550 ambulances, helicopters and airplanes, and operates three public safety answering point (PSAP) communication centers.

Challenges They Faced

As a healthcare service provider, Acadian Ambulance knows that it's a **favoured target of hackers and cybercriminals**. Over the years, the company has invested in an array of security tools to reduce the risk of a cyberattack.

"Healthcare organizations often lack the funding, the will and the personnel to give cybersecurity the kind of attention it deserves," said Joey Branton, Director of Technology, Acadian Ambulance.

"Many years ago, our company made a commitment to stay ahead of the cybersecurity curve insofar as possible.

"Like many companies, we purchased a variety of products that perform specific cybersecurity functions. That's the way the security market traditionally has worked — you determine the best practice for addressing a particular threat and go buy the product that's recognized for doing the best job."

The problem with this approach is that it creates an overly complex cybersecurity environment that's costly and hard to manage. Worse, dedicated appliances that don't talk to one another are incapable of detecting and blocking attacks that simultaneously exploit multiple vulnerabilities.

GDS Solutions

Global Data Systems helped Acadian Ambulance consolidate and rationalize its cybersecurity environment by standardizing on Cisco security products. All of the security tools can be monitored and managed via a centralized console and purchased under one licensing agreement.

"GDS brought us under a Cisco Enterprise Agreement that essentially collapsed down all of the tools that we were buying from a variety of vendors. We get improved cybersecurity awareness and outcomes for a more predictable spend," Branton said. "We have a single pane of glass for viewing the Cisco suite of security services and a homogenous view of our cybersecurity posture.

"We also have one point of contact if an issue arises. When we were buying products from multiple vendors, they would point fingers at each other and we were caught in the middle. Now that we're getting all of our security products from Cisco, we don't have that problem." No security solution is a panacea but

Company Stats

Size:
4,000 (across all divisions)

Industry:
Healthcare

Location:
Lafayette, LA



At A Glance

Challenge

- Target of hackers / cybercriminals
- Overwhelming amount of cybersecurity tools to manage
- Cybersecurity environment that's costly & hard to manage

Solution:

- Consolidate cybersecurity environment
- Manage tools via centralized console
- One point of contact

Results

- Lower operating costs & complexity, improved cybersecurity safety

For More Information

Contact

getgds.com/contact-us

Call Us:

888-435-7986

More About This Solution

getgds.com/end-user-security

standardizing on one platform offers a number of benefits. **GDS and Cisco have enabled Acadian Ambulance to lower operating costs, reduce complexity, streamline management and improve the company's cybersecurity posture.**