



Navantia

Profile

- Leading military shipbuilder in Spain.
- 9th supplier in the world.
- Designs sensitive military equipment.

Users

- 5000 information system users.
- Up to 15 applications per employee.
- Critical applications on Citrix XenApp.

Challenges

- Reinforcing the security of industrial applications.
- Single sign-on.
- Unmodified Citrix infrastructure and applications.

Benefits

- Only one password per employee.
- Reduced helpdesk costs.
- Enhanced security, thanks to the elimination of shared passwords.

A military shipbuilding company secures its accesses.

An industrial environment with high security constraints

Founded in 2005, Navantia owes its origin to the Spanish military arsenals created in 1730. Thanks to this long experience, Navantia has become the leading military shipbuilding company in Spain and a major player in the integration of naval techniques. Due to its size and investments in innovation and technology, the company is an international reference for the design and building of high-added-value military ships.

Navantia employees are spread over several major sites, in Madrid, Cartagena, Bay of Cadiz and Ria de Ferrol. The industrial activity is organized into four sectors: military shipbuilding, diesel engines, repairs and conversions, control and combat systems.

A supplier of state-of-the-art military equipment, Navantia is subjected by its clients to strict security and confidentiality obligations. All sensitive applications (such as design and production tool FORAN, project management tool ProjectWise, content and BPM solution Windchill, IBM z/OS applications, SAP R/3, SAP Portal, etc.) have individual, password-protected accounts.

A solution to facilitate and control access

Due to these security constraints, the average number of passwords managed by each information system user increased regularly. This became manifest in the number of helpdesk calls and the feeling of frustration expressed by users every day. Moreover, there was a risk that employees might exchange their passwords or use joint accounts. To solve these problems, Navantia decided to deploy a single sign-on (SSO) solution.

"We were looking for a SSO solution that would successfully cover the high number and variety of applications on our industrial sites, while respecting our internal industrial processes. After evaluating several solutions, we opted for Evidian Enterprise SSO which we found totally suitable for our needs and very user-friendly", explains José María Rubio Martín, Navantia's Information Systems Security Manager.

Deploying single sign-on

The project started with a preparatory phase during which Navantia worked with Bull Spain, Evidian's solution integrator. Bull Spain and Navantia's project team quickly configured Evidian Enterprise SSO to take into account the company's numerous applications, some of which were running with Citrix XenApp. The Evidian solution works without modifying any application: this is particularly suitable for an industrial client with a lot of different applications.

The deployment was progressive. A pilot was started with several representative users, followed by a communication campaign offering all interested users the possibility to request the installation. Installation is automated using Microsoft SMS, the standard distribution tool within Navantia. After this communication campaign, the solution was installed on about 500 PCs in a very short time. This was followed by an exponential rise in the number of users, as a result of individual users' satisfaction.

"After a few months, most users were deploying the SSO solution, which is now an integral part of our industrial processes", says María Rubio Martín. "Our employees understood by themselves that the Evidian product made their daily work a lot easier. The solution adapts to each person's task and not the other way round".

When users are convinced...

"We are very satisfied with the deployment of Evidian Enterprise SSO. Our users asked to use the solution because it facilitates access by eliminating their password management problems", concludes José María Rubio Martín. "The software also enables us to control accesses in a more secure and clear manner. This is of utmost importance since our company must comply with strict security obligations to work with often very sensitive information."

On a daily basis, the solution has reduced the frustration of users who, in the past, had to work with many passwords. The helpdesk spends much less time replacing locked or forgotten passwords.

Another benefit: security is automatically reinforced since users no longer have any reason to exchange their passwords or to work on the same, open application with other users. In a lot of cases, employees no longer even know the individual passwords for their applications.

"We needed to reinforce information system access security. Out of all the solutions available on the market, we chose Evidian's SSO because it is efficient and easy to integrate into an industrial environment."

Moreover, Evidian makes it possible to naturally upgrade to identity management. Therefore, we think that deploying Evidian Enterprise SSO is a first step towards full identity and access management."

José María Rubio Martín,
Navantia's Information Systems
Security Manager.