

The Netherlands #1 Real Estate Website Relies on OUTSCAN for Automated External Vulnerability Assessment and Management

As the leading real estate website in The Netherlands, Funda needed an automated process for external vulnerability management to reduce the amount of time spent on finding and correcting identified vulnerabilities manually.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

Funda is the Netherlands number one real estate website, providing an essential source of information for both private individuals and companies before, during, and after real estate transactions. With several sources of income stemming from webvertising, email marketing and sponsorship of the fundamental elements of the website averaging 11 million visits and 250 million page views per month – the securing of Funda’s external network was imperative to Funda IT Manager Marcel Begnor.

Begnor stated, “I was very interested in a system that could perform automated scanning on the corporate network so that I could see if it was really secure. I had tried to set up an automated scanning system myself but it wasn’t an easy task. When Outpost24 approached Funda to do network security scanning I was reluctant at first, but the OUTSCAN results were a real wake-up call.”

OUTPOST24 SOLUTION

Delivered as a Software as a Service (SaaS), OUTSCAN is an on-demand automated external vulnerability assessment and management tool which can be immediately deployed and requires no installation or maintenance. An indispensable tool for managing and reducing risk exposure, OUTSCAN combines ease-of-use with rich functionality and a powerful vulnerability scanning engine into a unique solution. “We were up and running in a couple of hours and it was ready for usage when I started – the only thing that needed to be configured were the IP addresses.” Begnor says.

The Funda logo, consisting of the word "funda" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font, set against a dark brown background with a yellow border.

ABOUT FUNDA

“OUTSCAN is not an application that you need to start up, I can go home or on a vacation and login to the system from anywhere. It definitely has some unique features I have never seen before.”

- Marcel Begnor,
Funda IT Manager

Funda is the number #1 real estate website in the Netherlands and is an essential source of information for both private individuals and companies before, during and after real estate transactions. Funda sets high standards for ads on the website. Therefore Funda works only with brokers who are organized in an association with high quality demands on its members. Funda is not intended for privately offered housing. In 2010 Funda worked with the NVM, VGM Netherlands, VBO and VastgoedPRO. With 11 million visits and 250 million page views per month Funda has one of the most visited websites in the Netherlands.

OUTSCAN enabled Funda to identify vulnerabilities rated and reported together with recommended remedy. "After the first reports appeared in the system, I understood the results with the exception of one involving SSL certificates and this finding was explained to me in great detail by an Outpost24 Security Expert. Its rare that I need to contact Support since the system is actually very easy-to-use and speaks for itself."

The process of correcting identified vulnerabilities is supported by workflow tools for delegating remediation tasks to appropriate administrators, and results can be compared over time to monitor trends in risk exposure. Begnor states, "OUTSCAN is a system that has everything in it. I don't see a lot of systems regarding vulnerability and exploit scanning that combine everything you need to test your network security. The nice features and the cool looking interface made me decide to choose this for external scanning."

RESULTS/BENEFITS

With OUTSCAN, Funda IT Manager Marcel Begnor saves time using the convenient automated weekly scan setup and simple configuration settings. Begnor explains "Every week I receive an automated message from OUTSCAN with the scan results, which means I have a report ready for the boss showing our network is secure. The weekly scan only needed to be configured once which really saves me time." OUTSCAN also allows multiple logins and has easy to understand configuration settings.

"When I want to change something in the configuration, it's only a matter of minutes and I'm done. So by saving time, it saves money" Begnor continues "In my experience using vulnerability scanners, I see that OUTSCAN is a unique product different from anything I have seen before. Several colleagues of mine were impressed by how easy to use the interface is. It looks like a desktop and allows users to resize and move windows around which makes it nice to work with. And it's not an application that you need to start up, I can go home or on a vacation and login to the system from anywhere. It definitely has some unique features I have never seen before."



Outpost24's extensive vulnerability database is updated on a daily basis and vulnerability information is aligned with the CVE (Common Vulnerability and Exposures) standard for Information Security Vulnerability Names. "There was an instance where I was surprised to see that the OUTSCAN report showed a high-risk finding on one of our company web-apps which runs on port 443. So, I started to look into the high-risk finding, which revealed a possible XSS/cross site scripting exploit. Two weeks later the manufacturer distributed an email saying they had serious exploits in the products with XSS/cross site scripting and that customers needed to update their servers and systems. So, Outpost24 actually gave me the warning two weeks in advance which was fantastic." Begnor said.

OUTSCAN has proved to be a unique, easy-to-use tool for vulnerability management, combining convenient workflow tools and time saving user settings with accurate up to date vulnerability findings. Through using OUTSCAN, Funda is able to effectively manage the risk on their external network while saving time and money.

"With my level of expertise in network systems and experience in IT administration I feel confident in saying that this system is so well designed that everyone can work with it."

- Marcel Begnor,
Funda IT Manager

WHY FUNDA CHOOSES OUTPOST24

- * Immediately ready for use
- * Up-to-date vulnerability findings
- * Well designed User Interface is easy-to-use
- * All-in-one tool for vulnerability assessment and management

ABOUT OUTPOST24: Vulnerability Management Made Easy! Outpost24 is the technology leader in on-demand vulnerability assessment and management solutions with over 1,000 corporate and government customers, including Travelex, Delta Lloyd Group, ING Life Limited, University of Helsinki, and Banco Multiva. Outpost24 is headquartered in Sweden with a global network of local sales offices. Outpost24 delivers security solutions in a Software-as-a-Service (OUTSCAN® & OUTSCAN PCI®) or Appliance (HIAB®) form factor. Outpost24's solutions provide fully automated network vulnerability scanning, easily interpreted reports, and vulnerability management tools. OUTSCAN PCI® is the ideal tool for businesses of all sizes to achieve and demonstrate PCI DSS compliance.