Strong Authentication for Internal and Mobile Users

Background

Tnuva is the largest food cooperative (co-op) in Israel specializing in milk, dairy and farm products. Its sales account for 70% of the country’s dairy market as well as sales of meat, eggs and packaged food. The co-op was established in 1926 and counts 620 cooperative members including a large number of collective farms and agricultural communities in Israel.

The Challenge

The Tnuva employees were accessing the co-op’s IT systems and restricted resources remotely using only username and a password. This constituted a large threat to the IT Security infrastructure of the organization. Tnuva’s challenge was to improve the IT Security of the organization by advancing to a strong access control authentication tool—a two factor authentication process: something you have (token, smart card) and something you know (password).

The solution

Tnuva chose to implement the two factor authentication process using the RSA SecuID system. The system provides remote access to the organization’s servers through the use of a unique PIN code that changes every 60 seconds – constituting an additional safeguard to the regular access means. The identification is based on a two-factor authentication and provides a more trustworthy level of identity authentication than when using a user and password identification method solely. By implementing the RSA SecureID solution in Tnuva a more controlled remote access to a wide range of critical organizational systems was achieved through several selected options:

- Hardware solution – A physical token providing a constant changing PIN code (every 60 seconds)
- A ‘soft’ token – A smartphone application providing the changing PIN code (every 60 seconds)
- An SMS token – A PIN code is being sent to the mobile phone/tablet as a text message, with no other installations required

Results

✓ An enhanced IT Security and controlled remote access to the organization’s systems
✓ An additional means for protecting the organizations’ resources
✓ A strong identification verification of users
✓ Simple and intuitive to use