

Privilege Account Management: The Next Killer App in The Cloud

With analysts predicting 30 percent of Privileged Account Management (PAM) security purchases running in the Cloud by 2019—up from 5 percent today—organizations must give careful consideration to their deployment options including Cloud, on premise and hybrid solutions.

OVERVIEW

Privileged accounts are prime targets for hackers and malicious insiders. Once hijacked, privileged accounts give attackers the ability to access and download an organization's most sensitive data, disrupt business operations, create additional user and privileged accounts and distribute malware. According to the most recent Verizon Data Breach Incident Report, 63 percent of all cyberattacks now involve weak or stolen passwords. As a result, no organization can afford to ignore implementing privileged account management security solutions to protect critical information assets.

As one of the most innovative PAM security solutions providers today, Thycotic, based in Washington DC with offices in Europe, has just introduced Secret Server Cloud.

Here's why Thycotic Secret Server Cloud can be considered the next killer-app in PAM security for the Cloud services marketplace.

ANALYSIS

Privileged accounts represent one of the most vulnerable aspects of an organization's IT infrastructure. Yet, until recently, they did not get the attention they deserve from both a security and IT management perspective. "Hiding in plain sight," privileged accounts are literally everywhere across the organization, providing users with high levels of access, or "privileged" access, to IT systems, applications and data. Privileged accounts are used by systems administrators to deploy and maintain IT systems and they exist in nearly every connected device, including; servers, databases and applications.

With the increasing complexity of IT infrastructures, the number of privileged accounts has grown exponentially. Today, organizations can typically have four to five times more privileged accounts than employees. The challenge in managing and securing these accounts is intensified by the growing adoption of new technologies, such as cloud computing, virtualization, and mobile.

Thycotic, a leading provider of privileged account management solutions for more than 7,500 organizations worldwide, is now delivering its flagship Secret Server PAM security product (ranked #18 on the Cybersecurity Ventures 500) via the Cloud. This represents the PAM industry's first comprehensive cloud-based privileged account management solution available and affordable for small, medium and large businesses. Secret Server Cloud is engineered to keep organizations' most valued assets protected in the cloud by enabling organizations to discover, manage and protect their privileged accounts wherever they may reside.

Thanks to the introduction of Thycotic Secret Server Cloud, the global success of the Secret Server on premise security is now available as an affordable, fast, and maintenance free PAM solution. As most organizations begin to recognize the Cloud's full potential, Secret Server Cloud represents a game changer in the PAM security marketplace

Thycotic's Secret Server Cloud: The next killer app delivered in the Cloud

TECHNICAL VALUE

Thycotic has chosen to leverage the power of Microsoft Azure platform for its advantages in delivering confidentiality, integrity and availability in safeguarding customer information in the Cloud. The Azure platform incorporates the latest solutions for identity and access management, data isolation, encryption, virtualized redundancy and their fabric VM design. This means organizations can save time, money, while letting Microsoft manage the IT infrastructure, without compromising scalability, security or dependability.

Key Secret Server Cloud technical benefits include:

Secure Vault

AES 256 encryption, with role-based access control

Automation

Active directory integration, network password rotation, session launchers, local admin account discovery, and "Heartbeat" assessments

Enhanced Security and Reporting

Full auditing and reports, RDP/SSH proxying, two-factor authentication, event subscriptions

Built-in Disaster Recovery – Automatic backups, unlimited administration, and high availability

BUSINESS VALUE

While most IT security applications are delivered today as on premise solutions, there are several reasons for a growing shift to the Cloud for PAM security solutions.

That's because services in the Cloud provide rapid access to applications often at a lower cost of ownership. With cloud computing, organizations don't need to make large upfront investments in purchasing, installing and maintaining hardware. Instead, they can provision exactly the right type and size of computing resources needed to power and grow their businesses.

From a software perspective, they don't have to worry about updates or versioning since these are included in the cloud-based service. Likewise, the security and privacy of cloud-based applications has made them trusted resources in powering business operations worldwide.

For all these advantages, the Cloud is the preferred delivery model for core applications such as CRM, HR and backup and recovery. And fortunately for organizations of all sizes, the cloud-based security option is now available for Privileged Account Management security with Thycotic Secret Server Cloud.

Along with the release of Secret Server Cloud, Thycotic has simultaneously made available a free version of this PAM security solution that gives organizations vault capabilities and active directory integration for up to 100 users. Called **Secret Server Cloud – Free**, this service is available at no cost so that any size organization now has a "no excuses, no-brainer" solution to immediately start improving privileged account security and compliance.

RECOMMENDATION

Our research clearly shows that companies intend to use the Cloud to enhance their business capabilities and improve IT security in the coming months and years. Thycotic Secret Server Cloud gives us the solution to dramatically improve privilege account security while delivering significant technical and business value in accomplishing more with less—the next killer app in the Cloud.

Steven C. Morgan, Editor-In-Chief

Founder and CEO at Cybersecurity Ventures, and Editor-In-Chief of the Cybersecurity Market Report and the Cybersecurity 500 list of the world's hottest and most innovative cybersecurity companies. Steve writes the weekly Cybersecurity Business Report for IDG's CSO, and he is a contributing writer for several business, technology, and cybersecurity media properties.