Allowing Remote Customer Access Without Compromising Security

Bank Hapoalim

Bank Hapoalim was founded in 1921 by the Israeli Trade Union Congress and the Zionist Organization. Over the years, the bank has evolved to include a network of branches around the country, and now supports activity in all areas of finance. Bank Hapoalim is currently the largest bank in Israel. In addition to its strong Israeli presence, the bank is also a major player in international finances and participates in various operations overseas and maintains close business relationships with banks around the world.

The bank currently maintains 250 bank branches, 22 business branches, and seven regional business centers.

The challenge: Achieving Unified and Secure Access Control

As part of its continuous growth, Bank Hapoalim had undergone a process of digital transformation. One of the goals of this process was to allow customers to perform daily operations quickly and easily; however, when it comes to banking, maintaining security is of utmost importance. Bank Hapoalim struggled to find a solution that would allow its customers to access their information without putting their sensitive information at risk of being accessed by malicious cyber-attackers.

The challenges they needed to solve included:

- Unifying access control for all types of users
- Providing client-less access to users
- Ensuring users authenticate prior to being granted access
- Keeping users off the network

Due to the need to allow the public to cash checks through the bank’s application, the bank needed a solution that could divide its network into segments, allowing users to open the mobile app and cash the check without opening ports in and out the network. In short, the bank needed a solution that could regulate who accesses the network and how they do so—allowing users to perform their banking operations through the bank’s mobile app without allowing unlimited access to the bank's network and the information contained within.
Bank Hapoalim approached Safe-T in search of a solution that could accommodate all its needs and still allow it to provide customers with a convenient way to share their checks without coming physically to the bank. Safe-T’s Zero Trust Network (ZTNA) solution, ZoneZero Secure Data Access, allows all entities secure access to an organization’s network and the resources within. This includes allowing access to employees and customers. The solution separates the network into segments, and each entity allowed into the network can only access certain segments.

Furthermore, Safe-T’s patented Reverse Access SDA technology eliminates the need to open ports within the firewall, guaranteeing that only secure and legitimate data can pass through into the internal network while still granting users secure access to the network through the firewall. Safe-T’s solution requires the user to authenticate their identity and the security of their data before accessing the system.

The Solution: Creating Secure Access with Safe-T’s ZoneZero Logical segmentation

Benefits to Customer

- Secure end-to-end access for incoming data (such as checks)
- Firewall inbound ports are closed
- Improved customer experience and compliance with internal security requirements.

Through Safe-T’s solution, Bank Hapoalim improved its customer experience and allowed customers to get their banking done from the comfort of their home without putting their sensitive financial information at risk.