

CBCX - Betting company connects thousands of remote betting terminals



Summary:

CBCX is a leading international provider for high-quality solutions for sports and live bets, races (dog racing, horse racing, etc.) and online games (Keno, PokerBet). CBCX provides software for installation on customer owned equipment as well as custom betting terminals.

Challenges:

- Need to connect new line of betting terminals across Europe
- Need a more viable solution than hardware appliance
- Bring the cost down

Solutions:

- Barracuda CloudGen Firewall

Results:

- Unlimited VPN clients can connect to the data centre
- Flexibility on customer specifications
- Cost effective and fast implementation

CBCX BETTING TECHNOLOGIES uses Barracuda's Network Access Client and VPN Client

In 2005, after having successfully rolled out the predecessor of the current Barracuda CloudGen Firewall to connect the headquarters locations to several remote offices and the datacenter, CBCX faced the problem of how to reliably connect its new line of betting terminals deployed across Europe.

Hardware appliance not a viable solution

CBCX determined that hardware based VPN solutions - even low cost - are typically more expensive to roll out and maintain compared to a full centrally-managed client. Since CBCX had plans to scale the business to tens of thousands of remotely connected terminals, it was more reasonable – and cost effective – to use a software installed VPN client. In addition, customers are not obligated to purchase a CBCX betting terminal for their organization, but can instead provide their own terminal or other standard hardware. These reasons in addition to ensuring a reliable and encrypted connection to the CBCX datacenter that does not interfere with occasional Internet or email access effectively ruled out using a hardware-VPN solution.

With up to 10,000 remote VPN clients connected to the datacentre, the Barracuda Network Access Client's built in traffic compression significantly reduces subsequent bandwidth needs in our data-centre.

*Technical Director Software Development
CBCX*

Class leading central management

All of the remote network access clients connect to a hot cluster of powerful Barracuda CloudGen Firewall F800 appliances. This allows for an unlimited number of VPN clients to connect to the datacenter. For each remote client or per client group a centrally managed firewall policy is enforced. This ensures that CBCX betting terminals only connect to the datacenter, while standard PCs or other customer-provided equipment can be more flexible based on customer specifications. With a customer base of hundreds of operators and 10,000 betting stations, ongoing security policy updates need to be implemented cost effectively and quickly, with the least amount of administrator overhead. Barracuda Firewall Control Center allows the administrator to centrally manage, implement and deploy any required changes with only a few mouse clicks through a native and easy to operate windows user interface.

About the Barracuda CloudGen Firewall

Barracuda CloudGen Firewalls feature advanced security capabilities, including integrated Intrusion Prevention (IPS), URL filtering and antivirus to identify and block evasion attempts that would trick traditional systems. Barracuda's security extends beyond a network to Barracuda's Advanced Threat Protection (ATP) cloud for both statistical and sandboxing analysis of zero-day and targeted threats that routinely bypass signature-based IPS and antivirus engines.



Barracuda
CloudGen Firewall

CloudGen Pathfinder technology

With built-in next-generation Pathfinder technology for Network Access Clients, before the actual connection request to a server happens, clients probe availability and load of its assigned remote access servers. After a short delay within a couple of milliseconds the clients then establish a secure remote connection to the server instance with the fastest response time. This effectively enables Barracuda CloudGen Firewall clusters to handle large numbers of requests of remote access clients during peak times. Additionally, Barracuda CloudGen Firewall F800 and F900 models include built-in SSL and VPN accelerators to significantly reduce the load on the system during times of high VPN tunnel initiation. This combination of hardware power and software intelligence enables CBCX to reliably support thousands of remote network access clients with just a hot pair of 1U Barracuda CloudGen Firewall F800 appliances.

Centrally managed client firewall and pathfinder technology allow tailored security policies per customer and reliable VPN connections.

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CBCX*

Traffic compression

All Network Access Client and VPN Clients apply powerful stream as well as packet-based compression algorithms to the transferred VPN traffic. Peak compression rates of up to 75% and sustainable average compression rates of 50% significantly reduce the bandwidth requirement at the endpoint. Considering several thousand remote clients connecting to a datacenter, traffic compression is a significant operational advantage.

Leading stability and proxy compliance

Currently CBCX operates approximately 10,000 remote betting stations and terminals in 14 countries across Europe. A betting terminal that is not connected to the datacenter doesn't generate revenue. Unhappy clients can refactor a betting terminal to connect to another provider of sports betting services within a few hours. This constant threat requires established, always-on connectivity as well as the ability to react to changes in the marketplace and customer requirements quickly. Hence VPN networks stability, the ability to establish a secure VPN connection even when located behind a Web proxy as well as persistent and ultra-fast reconnection upon involuntary short-term network loss convinced CBCX to select Barracuda Networks and Network Access Client and VPN Client as a strategic partner for years to come.

Barracuda CloudGen Firewall

Fast Facts

- Integrated next-generation security
- Full SD-WAN capabilities included
- Full user/group awareness
- Full application visibility and granular access control
- Advanced Threat Protection (incl. sandboxing)
- Built-in web security and IDS/IPS
- Connection-friendly and robust VPN
- QoS and link balancing
- Industry-leading central management

About Barracuda Networks, Inc.

Barracuda simplifies IT with cloud-enabled solutions that empower customers to protect their networks, applications, and data, regardless of where they reside. These powerful, easy-to-use, and affordable solutions are trusted by more than 150,000 organizations worldwide and are delivered in appliance, virtual appliance, cloud, and hybrid deployments. Barracuda's customer-centric business model focuses on delivering high-value, subscription-based IT solutions that provide end-to-end network and data security. For additional information, please visit barracuda.com.

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