Tempus Technologies Offers Retail Customers Superior Data Aggregation and Transaction Handling with D-Link® Firewalls

The Challenge
Tempus Technologies’ RetailNET solution aggregates data into a centralized management database. It allows Tempus to centrally manage customer merchant accounts via the Internet. In order to roll out the solution to more customers, Tempus needed to set up a virtual private network (VPN) to pull data from point of sale (POS) sites to their central database. The two-way channel would allow customers to access data in pre-defined formats as needed.

Tempus needed a robust firewall solution to establish a secure VPN. The firewall solution would have to provide high uptime availability. “We needed something that would not be dropping VPN tunnels all the time,” said Jason Sweitzer, President of Tempus Technologies Inc. The company also needed superior bandwidth allocation and management capabilities. Finally, they needed a solution that would be easy to set up, manage and maintain.

The Solution
D-Link’s DFL firewalls provided Tempus with the optimal solution on all counts. “After a lot of research, we found that the DFL business series offered an extremely rich feature set when compared to competitively classed products,” said Sweitzer. “The brand that’s considered the gold standard was not appropriate for small and medium sized businesses. With them, we’d have to hire a vendor tech for basic configuration.” Tempus chose to install D-Link® DFL-210 firewalls at their customer sites and a DFL-1600 rackmount VPN firewall for their own backhaul site.

The new solution allowed Tempus to support policy-based routing nearly unlimited inbound ISP connections. “As an example, we can have multiple ISPs feed in to our main data center and pull everything into one device,” explained Sweitzer. “Everything’s managed with super redundancy. If we’re doing an outbound transaction, we set the primary transaction to go out over the primary Internet connection, then we set the secondary to route over the secondary Internet connection. If one of them fails, it’s immediately going switch to the alternate connection and always be live.”

Customer Profile:
Tempus Technologies Inc., located in Auburn, Indiana, is a technology vendor that focuses on point of sale applications, data warehousing and payment processing for retail companies. Its flagship products, Spectrum POS and Spectrum RetailNET, help video rental stores and other retailers effectively manage their operations.

“Thanks to D-Link, rolling out our mission critical data aggregation and management solutions for customers is a lot easier and quicker. We also enjoy a superior cost-performance ratio.”

- Jason Sweitzer, President Tempus Technologies Inc.
The solution allows them to manage bandwidth at specific ports, as well. “We didn’t have the flexibility to do this before,” said Sweitzer. “Now, with the DFL firewalls, we can prioritize a credit card transaction higher than YouTube downloads, for example.” The equipment was easy to set up. “We don’t need a certified tech, and we can manage everything with our in-house team. The cost is not really in the equipment acquisition. The cost is in the consulting. With these routers, you don’t have to pay $200 an hour to configure it.”

The combination of routers is the perfect solution for VARs, remarked Sweitzer. “You don’t have to worry about costly service support down the road, the equipment is ICSA certified, and the price point is very reasonable.” When a Tempus customer needs a security assessment or audit, they like to see the ICSA certification. Not all equipment is ICSA certified.

Tempus is committed to a growing relationship with D-Link. “We’re rolling out a kiosk product right now nationally that will feature the D-Link firewall solutions. We’re very confident with the equipment we’ve chosen.”