

Zettaset Delivers Unified Encryption Management

EMA IMPACT BRIEF



Abstract

Managing encryption keys has always been a significant pain point for organizations, and in the past that difficulty kept a lid on how extensively encryption was deployed. With the explosion of data breaches caused by more sophisticated attackers, the exponential cost increase resulting from those breaches, and the rise of more data privacy regulations, enterprises are embracing a growing array of encryption solutions. This can add to the management complexity, requiring enterprises to juggle multiple encryption solutions. One company sought to rein that in by creating a centralized encryption management console that integrates with multiple key management systems to unify encryption management.

Event

At the end of March 2021, Zettaset released its new Zettaset Encryption Management Console—the first to centralize monitoring and management of multiple encryption systems spanning cloud, hybrid, and on-premises locations. The console integrates with key management systems from multiple third-party encryption providers, allowing IT security teams to centrally monitor data that is being encrypted and decrypted by each system in use. From a single user interface, operators can enforce policies across different datasets.

The Zettaset encryption management console is unique in deriving context and intelligence around encryption usage in the enterprise. It can monitor decryption rates and usage, as well as generate alerts when those go out of range. The management console software can integrate with any key manager that supports the industry-standard KMIP protocol. Zettaset is targeting initial integrations with leading key managers.

EMA Perspective

Having discrete key management systems with no clear understanding of who is responsible for all of the keys, as well as a lack of skilled personnel to manage the growing number of encryption systems that are deployed in a large, distributed organization, are the biggest sources of pain when it comes to encryption usage. The expanding use of cloud services, which often provide their own encryption solution, can exacerbate that problem. Unfortunately, the biggest encryption providers—including those that rely on proprietary hardware acceleration—have no incentive to work with rival systems' key managers. The growth in the use of encryption, driven by more breaches, more costly breaches, and the expansion of privacy regulations around the globe, has resulted in the use of multiple encryption solutions within a single enterprise.

At the same time, enterprises that do invest in encryption are beginning to see a return on that investment. In its 2020 data privacy study, Cisco Systems found that, on average, organizations see benefits that are 2.7 times their investment in data privacy, and 40% of organizations are seeing benefits that are more than twice their data privacy spending. This will help to boost the use of encryption, which is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 14.1% over the next six years, according to Fortune Business Insights.

Having visibility into encryption usage as enterprises continue to expand their use of cloud services will only increase in importance. This is especially true for cloud providers that deliver encryption of customer data stored in their cloud infrastructure and retain control of those keys.

Today, there is scant governance over encryption use within the enterprise—but that is beginning to change. With developments such as the Zettaset unified encryption management console, others are likely to jump on the bandwagon to bring more coherence to the growing use of cryptography. Zettaset, though, has early-mover advantage.

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