whalebone

Equa bank

Case study

Whalebone Immunity Delivered Immediate Results to Equa bank

Simple implementation, yet perfect results.”

Pavel Šikola
Head of IT Security Department, Equa bank

Equa bank offers simple, easy-to-understand, and transparent personal and business banking services, including free current and savings accounts, multi-currency credit cards, mortgages, term deposits, consumer loans, insurance, and business loans.

The bank has more than half a million clients, dozens of trading places, and has won major awards.

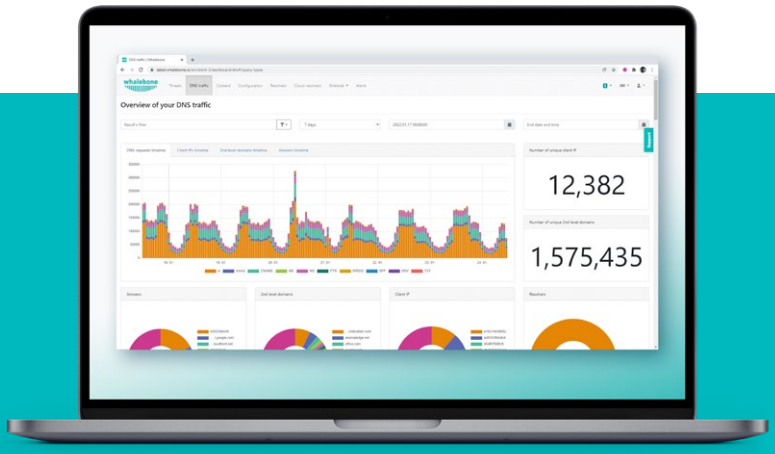
Problem

Protecting a bank means protecting high value

It is clear that for financial institutions such as banks, cybersecurity is now an absolutely essential element of the security infrastructure. Not only that large sums of money are at stake, but also highly sensitive and exploitable data of customers using internet banking. **As a frequent target of cyber-attacks, banks must not underestimate any relevant threats.**

The situation is complicated by the fact that banks are **one of the most regulated businesses** in the world, even when it comes to security. Banks are required to do all in their power to process their customers' payment transactions without risking a cyber attack. At the same time, banks must actively demonstrate to regulators that they are successfully dealing with security consistently.

> **We couldn't ignore the attack vector through DNS, which unquestionably possesses risks. We knew this based on our own measurements, various recommendations, and cyber threat indicators.**
>
> **Pavel Šikola**,
> Head of IT Security Department, Equa bank



Another motivation for Equa bank to deploy Whalebone Immunity was the visibility the product provides. DNS traffic traditionally runs under the radar of network engineers, as do the threats associated with it. Higher visibility comes with greater control and more efficient and timely resolution of potential incidents.

> **We didn't have an overview of the DNS logs in our company. Whalebone has given us increased visibility in this area, and we've also been able to link this to our internal security systems. This allowed us to elevate this domain, which had been a bit out of our focus, to something we've actually been doing right.**
>
> **Mário Lipovský**, IT Security Architect, Equa bank

Solution

Whalebone Immunity easily covers blind spots in security architecture

After studying DNS-level protection options, Equa bank's security team decided on Whalebone Immunity for its **ease of implementation and excellent results**. Since it is a DNS resolver, the implementation is fully automatic, i.e. a policy that is set at a single point. That policy is then distributed to all endpoints. According to the Equa bank security team, the deployment was absolutely seamless.

> **We have not been in contact with technical support at all. We haven't needed it. You just deploy the solution and it works. It's fail-safe and catches relevant threats.**
>
> **Mário Lipovský**,
> IT Security Architect, Equa bank

The product was deployed in phases. First, a few computers were redirected to Whalebone DNS resolvers. Later on more computers, then half the bank, and finally all traffic, including server traffic.

Before the actual deployment on the entire network, the product was tested with a POC.

The goal was to correlate the detections with other security tools to see if the results would be comparable and the detections relevant. **Within the POC itself, the product already detected threats that had been invisible to Equa bank's security team until then.** It also proved to be a very principal element of the security architecture.

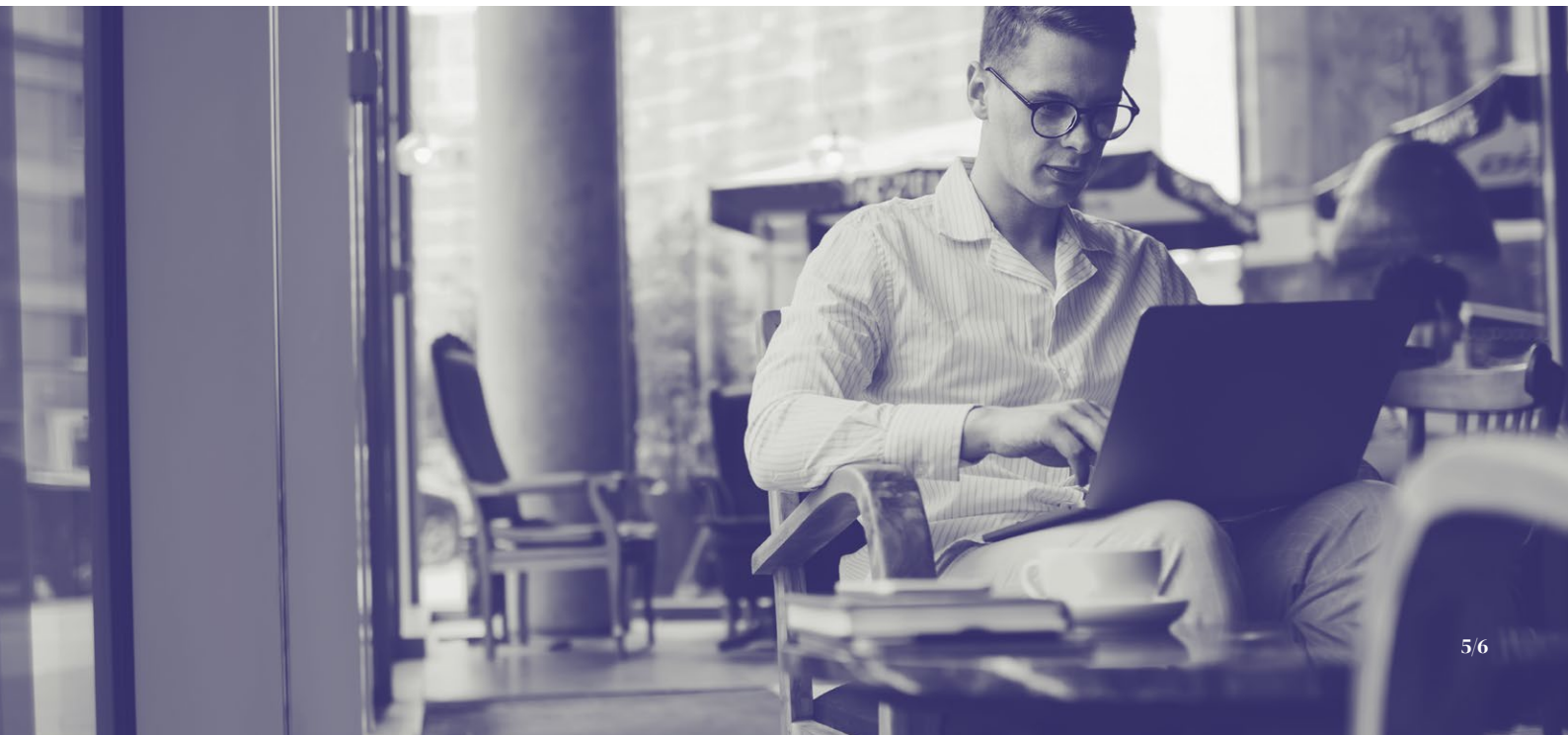
> **We were very satisfied with the POC. Compared to our traditional solutions like SSL traffic inspection, it had more detections and also more true positive detections. Based on Whalebone, we identified and resolved several security incidents that were definitely serious true positives.**
>
> **Pavel Šikola**, Head of IT Security Department, Equa bank

Result

Tangible results from the very beginning

The goal of Whalebone Immunity is to make security teams' jobs more efficient and easier. That is why it is developed for the easiest possible implementation and intuitive, efficient management. A clear GUI helps administrators analyze and solve potential incidents in the best possible way. Using the Whalebone API, it is possible to retrieve relevant data in appropriate formats and benefit from the information obtained within your own systems. The value of the product becomes obvious in direct comparison with outputs of other security systems.

> **We have linked Immunity to our SIEM and we are actively addressing all the findings that are there. As soon as we deployed Whalebone, we caught some Monero miners. We also detected compromised computers that weren't under our control, brought in by external contractors. We dealt with them as well.**
>
> **Mário Lipovský**, IT Security Architect, Equa bank



The security team's satisfaction is also related to the fact that they have **no negative feedback from end-users**. Whalebone Threat Intelligence effectively eliminates false positives, and administrators have the ability to set security policies according to their needs and the expertise of the company's employees.

The deployment of Whalebone Immunity at Equa bank can be summarized in the following points:

1. **Easy deployment**
2. **Immediately visible results**
3. **User-friendly management and use**
4. **An essential addition to security infrastructure**
5. **Fundamental extension of operational visibility**

> **It brings visible results right away. No complicated buying and servicing.**
>
> **Pavel Šikola**,
> Head of IT Security
> Department, Equa bank

Easily redirect part of your network traffic to Whalebone resolvers and try out our free trial.

www.whalebone.io

Learn more about our product at whalebone.io/whalebone-immunity, ask for a demo or contact us via e-mail.

sales@whalebone.io

We will be more than happy to answer any questions. Mutual satisfaction is our main goal and we will do our best to fulfil your requests.