

## CU SECURITY - ESTABLISHING A PROACTIVE APPROACH

In order to establish a proactive security program, credit unions should start from the top and work their way down. First, the credit union must assess the risk to their IT infrastructure and identify all the laws and regulations the credit union must adhere to. Next, the credit union should use regulatory and risk information to develop and maintain a comprehensive IT security policy that defines how the credit union will protect their member information and their IT assets. The policy should be written with enough detail to clearly show compliance with NCUA regulations, as well as, to extract a security configuration standard for the network. If the policy does not contain this amount of detail then another layer of documentation is required to define the credit union's network security configuration standard.

If the IT security policy is developed properly, the credit union's security configuration standard can easily be derived. The policy-derived security configuration standard can then be used as a measuring stick to monitor the network and quickly identify when a network component falls out of policy compliance or when the credit union's security posture is weakened.

Polivec's comprehensive security policy automation solution allows credit unions to develop an NCUA-compliant IT security policy, implement the policy and monitor compliance with the policy across the network. If a network change violates the credit union's IT security policy or weakens the IT security posture, an alert is sent via page or email so that immediate remediation can occur.

Polivec's analytic, scoring and reporting engine delivers a wide range of detailed reports geared to both senior managers and IT staff. You can drill down and see how your credit union is doing in a particular area, watch trends and obtain detailed technical reports. This documentation quickly shows that your credit union: 1) has developed NCUA-compliant policies, 2) maintains proof of compliance with those policies, and 3) provides up to the minute reports and alerts on the status of policy enforcement and the credit union's security posture.

Polivec's elegant approach to policy automation and enforcement provides directors and executives with NCUA-compliant policies and reports on how their network is complying with their policies. Polivec also provides implementation standards that define how the network must be configured to comply with policy and it immediately alerts your IT staff when systems fall out of compliance with the credit union's policy. Polivec brings the credit union executive team peace of mind by reporting on the exact status of their security posture and how their IT security program is progressing. Rather than constantly looking for network vulnerabilities that may or may not be present, Polivec notifies you when a security vulnerability has been created on your network.

Security is a process, not a project. To maintain an effective security program, credit unions must consistently and continuously monitor their networks for insecure configurations and take immediate steps to correct any deficiencies found.



**Polivec**  
Security Policy Automation

**Mark Azzolina** is Vice President of Customer Support and Services at Polivec. Mark has over 23 years of technical and management experience in the Information Technology industry. Among his responsibilities at Polivec, he is in charge of ensuring the delivery of professional service engagements, commitments and engineering support to customers. Over the past three years, Mark has provided professional security services to the credit union industry and has been a regular speaker at credit union conferences throughout the country. He is the author of Polivec's GLBA-compliant IT security policy currently used by numerous credit unions. Mark is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional by the International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium and a member of the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA).