

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

10:30 AM – 10:50 AM

Securing the Warfighter Workforce Everywhere

Michael Slavinsky

Solution Engineer

Menlo Security

Abstract:

The U.S. Army has embarked on a digital transformation at all echelons, top of mind across Army leadership are emerging cybersecurity challenges faced by adversaries. Digital transformation during the COVID-19 pandemic has added to the complexity and threat exposure landscape as the Army workforce has transformed and more soldiers, civilians, contractors, and vendors reflects a hybrid workforce. This post-pandemic situation presents challenges to Army cyber leadership coupled with major geo-political events.

This new “normal” Army workforce coupled with stated objectives within the Army’s Unified Network goals implies that Army users, devices, applications and data are moving towards a cloud focused approach for application access. Legacy security solutions such as Virtual Private Networks (VPN) coupled with strong authentication have traditionally been leveraged for secure connections between remote users and mission-critical applications. However, the explosion of remote workers has shown the limitations of VPNs, creating major bottlenecks that have impacted application performance.

A key challenge for Army leadership is providing distributed employees and vendors with the unhindered secure access to internal web applications, data, and other enterprise resources they need to do their jobs without expanding the surface area for bad actors to target. A key solution to this challenge is the Menlo Private Access. (MPA) solution which grants secure access to mission-critical Army applications without requiring VPN clients and 3rd party security agents. The MPA solution leverages Menlo Security’s Isolation Core Technology to create a rendered image of an application on an endpoint device directly in the user’s browser. This Zero Trust Network Access approach eliminates a bad actor’s ability to directly interact with the application through the power of an approved cloud enable Isolation platform.

Founded in 2013 in Palo Alto, CA, Menlo Security has over 300 customers including 8 of the 10 largest banks in the world. Menlo’s Isolation Core has also been successfully deployed via the Defense Information Systems Agency’s (DISA’s) Cloud Based Internet Isolation (CBII) solution to 2 million DoD employees and contractors. Over 50 million threats are being eliminated per month by CBII.