

Noridian deployed SenSage's security risk management solution to ensure adherence to the mandates of the Healthcare Information Portability and Assurance Act (HIPAA) and to optimize its security operations. To meet the stricter Contractor Assessment Security Tool (CAST) requirements issued by the Centers for Medical and Medicare Services (CMS), as well as the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), Noridian monitored and analyzed the required log data in its entirety. Both internal staff and external contractors of the company effectively respond to alerts on potential security violations and suspicious activities involving patient health data and proactively mitigate security risks.

“SenSage’s centralized management platform enabled us to streamline the process of handling potential privacy violation investigations. I envision SenSage solution’s high degree of flexibility, and its ability to customize continues to allow us to add any log sources without concerns on performance, capacity or scalability.”

*- Troy Aswege,
AVP Information Services,
Noridian*

Company Profile

Noridian offers vision and dental coverage, group life insurance, cancer and dread disease coverage, annuities, flexible benefits administration, worksite benefits and an out-of-hospital prepaid prescription drug program to employers. More than 440,000 people have Noridian health care coverage either directly or through administrative agreements. To continue its growth and meet member needs, Noridian focuses on the development and implementation of effective managed care programs.

Business Driver – HIPAA Audit Controls, FISMA and CAST requirements by CMS

Noridian is subject to the stringent audit control regulations of HIPAA. Under HIPAA, organizations such as Noridian must not only take specific precautions to ensure the privacy of patient data, but also must act quickly to investigate and remedy any security breaches involving such data. Furthermore, Noridian's growth in managed care services has partly contributed to the surges in its use of Medicare contractors. As a result, it is mandatory to also closely examine and comply with FISMA and CAST. These requirements by CMS necessitate a solution that can handle data from broader sources for an extended period.

Results

Noridian utilizes SenSage's log adapters for managing enterprise log data from network, security, systems, Web applications and healthcare applications containing EPHI (Electronic Protected Health Information.) Noridian has gained higher visibility and control of the business activities by its Medicare contractors and other partners by monitoring, analyzing and reporting on the activities related to healthcare information as well as on broad security and network data. The company not only met its initial compliance objectives but also gained better understanding of its network and security operations, which led to increased business efficiency in its managed care operations and internal auditing processes.

The Bottom Line

Noridian demonstrated HIPAA, FISMA and CMS - CAST compliance with centralized management and monitoring of logs over diverse devices and applications while improving security and network operations.

SenSage Solution Summary:

Industry: Healthcare

Business Drivers:

- Centralize logging and event correlation in compliance with audit control requirements
- Minimize time and personnel cost required for investigations
- Comply with CAST requirements by CMS

Daily log volume:

- 2.5 gigabytes a day

Log Types:

Networking:	Nortel
Network devices:	Checkpoint FW, SonicWALL FW
Security:	Snort IDS
Operating Systems & Management:	Windows Event log (via Snare), Unix AIX system logs, Red Hat Linux, RACF, Tivoli, NetVision, Novell Zenworks
Web/DB Applications:	Windows IIS, Radius Access logs, Novell logs, Oracle, Squid proxy

Report Types:

- ♦ Investigate users
- ♦ Activity on EPHI hosts
- ♦ Firewalls protecting EPHI
- ♦ IDS activity for EPHI hosts
- ♦ E-mail activity summary
- ♦ Logins to EPHI hosts
- ♦ Suspicious Extranet
- ♦ Access to EPHI

SenSage provides a comprehensive toolset to meet the audit control requirements of HIPAA. With custom adapters for collecting enterprise log data from critical healthcare business systems such as Cerner, Lawson, and McKesson, SenSage enables rapid collection of complete log data from varied sources. The company's patent-pending correlation and storage capabilities facilitate the identification of otherwise hard to identify security breaches that occur over time. Built-in correlation and pre-defined reports provide intelligent business analytics that enable users to quickly identify, research, and respond to security violations

What's Included in the toolset?

Over 50 log adapters and more than 120 pre-defined reports specific to HIPAA best practices and audit control regulations.

Report Categories

- ♦ *Hosts with Suspicious Network Activity*
- ♦ *Internal Users with Suspicious Activity*
- ♦ *Suspected Data Leakage*
- ♦ *Investigate Email Usage*
- ♦ *Investigate Hosts*
- ♦ *Investigate Users*
- ♦ *Authentication and Access Control*
- ♦ *Business Critical System Activity*
- ♦ *Email Activity*
- ♦ *Firewall Activity*
- ♦ *IDS Activity*
- ♦ *Patient Management Activity*
- ♦ *Web Surfing Activity*

SenSage Product Facts

- ♦ Adheres to COBIT Standards
- ♦ Runs on commodity hardware
- ♦ Scales linearly for low-cost expansion
- ♦ Retains complete log data, no filtering or indexing
- ♦ Provides massive, online availability of data with patent-pending compression technology
- ♦ Utilizes parallel processing technology on data collection and query for high performance and redundancy

Types of Log Adapters

Network

*Firewalls/VPN
Routers/Switches
Traffic Management
Traffic Analysis
Remote Access*

Operating Systems

*Midrange/Desktops
Mainframe
3rd Party OS Audit Products*

Security

*IDS/IPS
Antivirus
SIM/SEM/ESM
Vulnerability Management
SenSage Self-Audit*

Infrastructure Applications

*Access Control /Identify Management
Database
Web Proxy
Email & IM
Web/App Server/Middleware
File Server
Other Infrastructure Applications*

Horizontal Applications

*ERP / Financials/HR
Patient Management*

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