

# Helping an energy and utility company guard proprietary data

The client is revolutionizing the way energy is generated and consumed with its unique on-site power generation systems that utilize an innovative new fuel cell technology. Creating new technologies and developing IP data around product designs, chemical compositions and so on, form the crux of the client's business. For this, it has established development and R&D centers across the globe - North America, Mexico, Taiwan, China and India.

However, the increasing number of partners and suppliers located globally, led to greater risks and threats to proprietary IP data. At the time, the client had insufficient data to quantify the threats and identify the high IP risk and data leakage areas across processes and people in the company. It did not have adequate security controls, metrics, policies and processes, and was constrained by limited and outdated technologies, and a general lack of understanding by employees about the importance of data security and privacy.

The client therefore required a partner to perform an IP risk assessment, obtain senior management visibility over its current threat landscape, recommend an overall security remediation path and prioritize its budget accordingly for the next three years.



Happiest Minds' reputation in the data security space made it the perfect candidate to conduct the IP risk assessment.

- **The client:** A leading global energy and utility company
- **The business problem:** The client wanted to evaluate its existing security controls to assess if its Intellectual Property (IP) was protected adequately against theft and misuse.
- **The solution:** The IP risk assessment conducted by Happiest Minds comprised analyzing and confirming IP risks and perceived threats to build a business case for a security remediation plan for IP protection.
- **The outcome:** The client was able to identify quick win areas, short and long term goals and improve overall security maturity of the enterprise and address IP risks.

## Snapshot of Case Study

## The Happiest Minds Solution

The various risks that were identified, and the risk mitigating controls recommended and put in place by Happiest Minds are as follows:

IP Risk (based on assessment findings) 	Recommendation from Happiest Minds for mitigating risk 
Lack of adequate controls, metrics, policies and governance structure around IP protection	Initiate security governance track
Lack of definition or publication of data classification/protection principles	Create a Data Protection Policy and initiate Data classification
Inadequate controls over end points that have access to IP data	Establish total control over data accessed and stored on end
IP data scattered across network and systems (specifically network shares and share point)	Adopt data minimization and data loss prevention techniques
Potential data loss from authorized suppliers / 3rd parties	Enforce DLP policy to prevent un-authorized sharing of sensitive data, lay down Information Rights Management policies for identified employees for information exchange with 3rd parties, set up VDI for travelling employees
Inadequate visibility of sensitive data storage and usage	Control end point DLP and AD access
Limited technology /procedures to prevent / detect data loss	Adopt DLP, encryption, VDI, AD access controls together with policy awareness
No visibility of "who has access to what" Lack of processes and tools to monitor unauthorized system and/or application access	Institute access governance measures for identified critical applications
Lack of comprehensive controls to prevent network attacks	Ensure threat intelligence through a continuous vulnerability
Threats from mobile / travelling employees	Establish travel policy and implement VDI to provide secure access to enterprise apps for travelling users

## Happiest Minds' provided the following Solutions:

- Examining the client's IT Systems and security controls
- Developing and executing a three-year remediation program for process alignment split into three phases:
  - **Short term** - Smoothen the foundation
  - **Near term** – Enhance the foundation
  - **Long term** - Ensure the client environment is future ready
- Creating and implementing solutions for security governance and network and perimeter security, adopting Virtual Desktop Infrastructure and ensuring data protection as well as application security, and streamlining “business as usual” to take care of ongoing sustenance

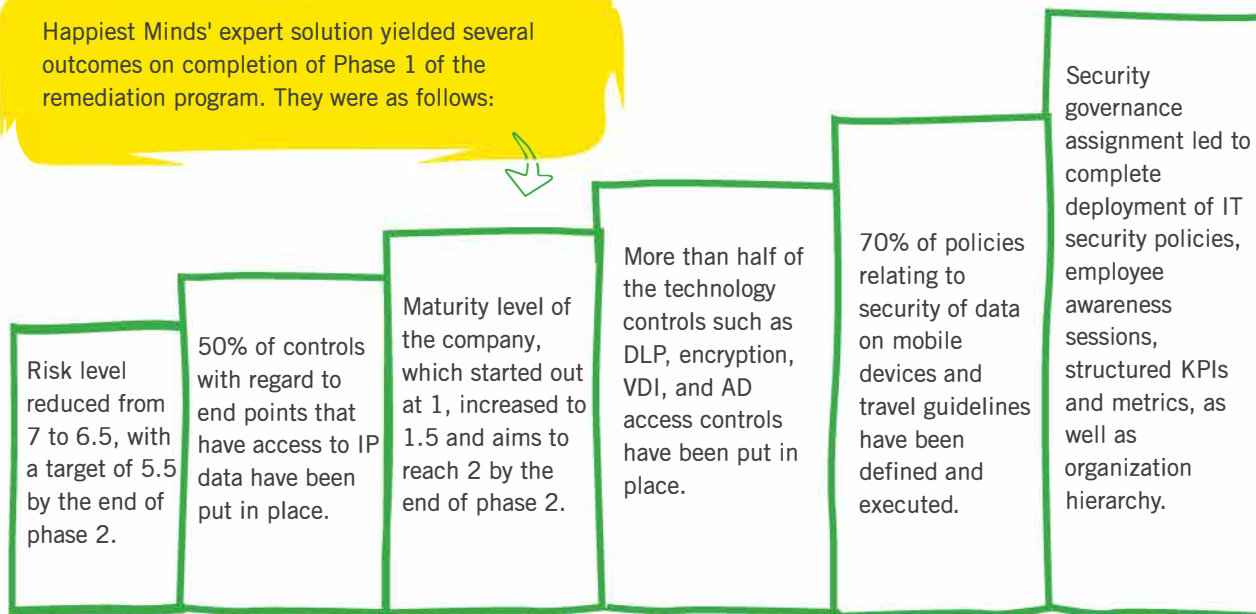


## Benefits

The multi-faceted risk assessment anchored by Happiest Minds provided the following benefits to the client:

- ✓ Identified and prioritized threats to the IP portfolio and built a business case for the implementation of IP security controls through a quantitative analysis of IP risk
- ✓ Assisted the CISO in categorizing goals based on the level of urgency to enhance the overall security maturity and defining timelines for compliance obligations
- ✓ Provided the CSIO and CIO with visibility over the entire IP landscape as well as cost-effective strategies for the overall solution delivery to realign capital and operating expenditure according to the threat landscape
- ✓ Raised awareness among employees regarding current and possible threats within the company and emphasized the importance of adhering to policies related to IP protection
- ✓ Executed the remediation program which, in Phase 1, has resulted in a 30% reduction of identified risks
- ✓ Installed a 24x7 monitoring facility to provide real-time incident detection and reporting, with no attack going unnoticed.

Happiest Minds' expert solution yielded several outcomes on completion of Phase 1 of the remediation program. They were as follows:



### Happiest Minds

Happiest Minds, the Mindful IT Company, applies agile methodologies to enable digital transformation for enterprises and technology providers by delivering seamless customer experience, business efficiency and actionable insights. We leverage a spectrum of disruptive technologies such as: Big Data Analytics, AI & Cognitive Computing, Internet of Things, Cloud, Security, SDN-NFV, RPA, Blockchain, etc. Positioned as “Born Digital . Born Agile”, our capabilities spans across product engineering, digital business solutions, infrastructure management and security services. We deliver these services across industry sectors such as retail, consumer packaged goods, edutech, e-commerce, banking, insurance, hi-tech, engineering R&D, manufacturing, automotive and travel/transportation/hospitality.

Headquartered in Bangalore, India Happiest Minds has operations in the U.S., UK, The Netherlands, Australia and Middle East.