

Selig Group and Viadex: Customer Case Study

Secure Access Service Edge: Viadex and Cato Networks make the cyberworld safer for Selig Group's globally-dispersed operations

"Viadex never take anything at face value. For ten years we've relied on this always-fresh approach as an essential pillar in supporting the IT enablement of Selig Group's global expansion.

We wanted global connectivity, but we needed best-in-class security to go with it. Viadex showed us the way."

- Darren Hauck, Global Director of IT and IS at Selig Group.

Meet Selig: Providing superior sealing solutions since 1890

If you've ever peeled a seal from a plastic bottle, opened a pack of headache pills, unscrewed a tub of face cream, opened a chocolate wrapper, or opened a bottle of bleach, the chances are the closure or flexible packaging was created by Selig.

US-headquartered Selig Group is a world leader in packaging solutions for applications such as food and beverages, pharmaceutical, chemical, personal care, nutraceutical (fortified food and dietary supplements) and electronic products. In addition to its strong presence in Canada and North America (Ontario, Illinois, Michigan), and Europe (Slough, Zurich, Lyon) the group is expanding in Latin America and China. The group employs approximately 800 people.

Selig Group is expanding rapidly, both through organic growth—underpinned by its constant innovation in this highly specialised field of manufacturing—and through acquisition. Assimilating new companies into the fold has necessitated a robust and standardised approach to IT; essential in avoiding the operational issues that can arise when siloed entities create disparity between systems.

The challenge: Ensuring uncompromised, standardised, and secure global connectivity

Standardise | Unify | Collaborate

Darren Hauck, Global Director of IT and IS at Selig Group, has been no stranger to IT challenges over the last ten years. When he first came into his role at the start of what has proved to be a transformative decade for the group, Darren inherited an IT estate that had grown organically within group companies and across varying global locations. Disparate systems were leading to unnecessary road-bumps in the way of the overall agility the Selig IT team could bring to the group.

Viadex have accompanied the Selig Group through the evolution of its IT strategy; developing and supporting the technical stack, re-designing and re-building when appropriate, and implementing hardware refreshes along the way.

Unified Communications and Collaboration (UCC)

"In terms of ensuring rock-solid secure connectivity across our global locations' SD-WAN, I had every confidence in asking Viadex to advise what a security strategy could look like. Our future vision at Selig Group—'Selig 24'—focuses on integration, standardisation and collaboration across the group, facilitated and supported by a unified infrastructure", says Darren.



AUDIT



DESIGN



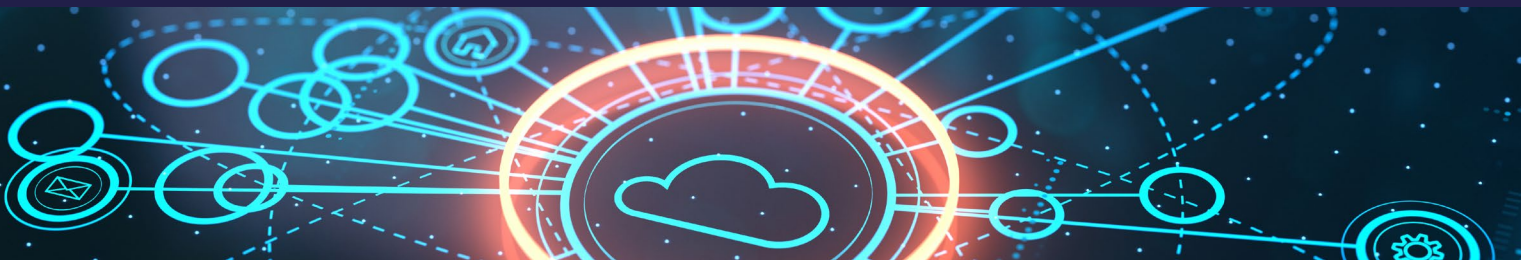
DEPLOY



OPTIMISE



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Selig were looking for a robust global connectivity solution to pave the way for a UCC strategy. They wanted a simple and effective approach to security between countries, at the edge, and with the flexibility to meet specific country requirements. They also wanted to reduce the time taken to onboard new companies and new territories. This meant gaining the ability to universally apply security policies to all SD-WAN network traffic, but with modifications where threats may prove to be of a different nature, particular focus being on Selig's in-progress expansion into China.

"Viadex are my extended resource," says Darren, "I wanted them to resolve this global secure-connectivity issue in a way that wouldn't involve any of my 14-person IT team on a day-to-day basis. The team's role is to help support and accelerate Selig's innovation, not to get tied up in creating reports, monitoring systems, and all the other essential tasks that don't just chew up time but also require specific skills and expertise; security being an obvious case in point."

Cloud-based network security

A cloud-based service, Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) enables Selig locations and users to connect in via the Cato Global Private Backbone; rapid set-up which enables onboarding of an entire new company in a matter of days. For Selig Group, for Darren, and for the organisation's extensive user base, the user experience is seamless; regardless of where they connect from.

Global integration assured

"Viadex took care of everything on our behalf with Cato Networks, from the RFI and RFP, through to the proof of concept and then the pricing negotiations", says Darren. "Our global locations are now integrated and we're better prepared for any eventuality that arises; in China, for example, a unique approach to data governance prevails. The Cato SASE Cloud enables us to treat each location according to specific requirements and, if necessary, we can easily block data".

The Viadex Way: Baking security into the network, and making sure it stays that way

Being one global entity

"If there's any problem with IT, the business is impacted. The bigger the problem, the bigger the impact. Being global means the impact can come from anywhere. I wanted Viadex to make sense of all that," says Darren.

Viadex has been supporting midmarket, UK or US-based, geo-dispersed businesses since 2001 and has provided services to organisations in over 190 countries. Our proven managed services respond to the needs, goals, infrastructures and modes of operation of global organisations. For Selig Group, this meant an SD-WAN global connectivity and security solution that could take a globally-dispersed IT estate and treat it as one entity.

Having previously reviewed the market, we had formed a partnership with Cato Networks; our assessment of its Secure Access Service Edge¹ solution showing it to be in front in terms of innovation and completeness. SASE eradicates the need to deploy point solutions for network access, implement multiple firewalls and secure web gateways, and to set individual location security policies; all time-consuming procedures and all hampering agility.

¹SASE: [Gartner](#) points the way.

The outcomes: Being everywhere; seeing anywhere

The ubiquitous cyberthreat

One way into a company's IT systems, in one part of the organisation, in one country, can rapidly open up a world of havoc-wreaking opportunity for a determined and sophisticated hacker. This is now in the nature of the digital world. It's now a foundational consideration when it comes to building robust cybersecurity strategies. If a cyberthreat is coming, it will most likely come in at the edge. In a globally-dispersed organisation like Selig Group, it can come from anywhere.

For this reason—the ubiquity of the cyberthreat—the SASE approach, backed by Cato Managed Threat Detection and Response (MDR) mitigates risks as it keeps pace with Selig's global activities, evolving with but also effectively anticipating them; serving each new location as it comes on board, spotting new threats way out on the horizon before they have time to do any harm, and equipping the Viadex security Managed Services team with the most effective tool available to support and secure Selig's global SD-WAN.



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Cato's SASE solution seamlessly extends threat-detection capabilities, with continuous network monitoring for compromised, malware-infected endpoints. This enables every site and user to benefit from detection of persistent threats.

SASE key features also include:

- Application-aware next-generation Firewall-as-a-Service (FWaaS)
- Secure web gateway with URL filtering (SWG)
- Standard and next-generation anti-malware (NGAV)
- Managed IPS-as-a-Service (IPS)

"Recommending Cato SASE Cloud was a stroke of Viadex genius. It addresses our standardisation requirements and now truly underpins our need to 'follow the sun'; with the same technical stack deployed across all seven of our locations. The single-point VPN has enabled us to get rid of a previous multiplicity of VPN tools and the whole business can now operate as if it were one site, whilst providing some security segregation", says Darren.

Viadex provides Selig Group with managed services to take care of adds, moves and changes, whilst also proactively monitoring and managing the network.

"The Viadex managed service aspect takes a huge weight off our shoulders. It's an area we don't have sufficient internal resource to handle, nor do we have the expertise. Viadex has entire round-the-clock security teams taking care of our network and these are experienced security experts. This gives our team the freedom to focus on what they do best—adding value to the company's core business", says Darren.

www.seliggroup.com



About Viadex

Experience: Viadex work with best-in-class global partners to deliver tried and tested approaches and engagement models, following a robust framework approach to ensure justifiable outcomes and reduce project risks.

Direction: In an increasingly competitive environment, a 'one size fits all' approach to IT rarely addresses your objectives: reducing risk, reducing costs or improving efficiencies.

Precision: Our structured methodology analyses your current mode of operation (CMO) to best define the scope of the IT solution, aligned to the needs of the business now and into the future.

Focus: Viadex provide tactical and strategic IT direction to help focus on your current and future business goals and long-term strategy.

