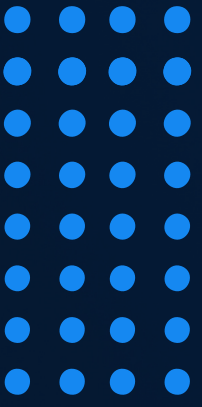**CybelAngel**

Cushman & Wakefield Reduces Digital Footprint Beyond Their Four Walls

CybelAngel detects cyberthreats through comprehensive digital risk protection

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Cybelangel plays a crucial role in our Cybersecurity protection arsenal, to make sure we monitor and act fast on threats outside our perimeter.

Erik Hart,
Chief Information Security Officer
Cushman & Wakefield

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Executive Summary

ABOUT CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD

What began as a small family business in Chicago a century ago, today is a public company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) with an annual turnover above 8.8 billion USD. A global leader in the commercial real estate (CRE) industry, Cushman & Wakefield relies on 50,000+ team members spread across 400 offices in 70 countries. They service top organizations across all industries including public services, hospitality, and insurance.

With a vision that places their clients and their people at the center of everything, it's no wonder Cushman & Wakefield put risk mitigation at the heart of their digital transformation.

As Cushman & Wakefield's operations move to the cloud, Erik Hart, Chief Information Security Officer, and his teams have the task of securing their new digital realms against emerging threats.

CHALLENGES

Property technology, or "proptech," companies and the rise of connected spaces push real estate players like Cushman & Wakefield to be more innovative and digitally focused. These advancements in the industry also drive a radical change in perspective when it comes to security.

Cushman & Wakefield has expanded their external attack surface through connections with thousands of suppliers' ecosystems, yet due to third party negligence, this expansion can leave confidential data and critical entry points potentially exposed. Erik Hart's team struggled with visibility and control over vulnerable endpoints in their extended infrastructure.

"We are moving our operations to Cloud and SaaS solutions, and working with thousands of third parties", explains Erik Hart. "CybelAngel plays a crucial role in our Cybersecurity protection arsenal, to make sure we monitor and act fast on threats outside our perimeter."

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> Just today, we were alerted to an exposed video camera system set up by a supplier and [that was] opening a backdoor. Because it's not running on our network, we couldn't have seen it on our own. Typical Shadow IT story.
>
> **Erik Hart,**
> **Chief Information and Security Officer**
> **Cushman & Wakefield**
>
> ❞

Solution: Digital Risk Protection

"Most of the events we see originate in honest human errors outside of our perimeter," Erik explains. "Someone thought they secured a cloud bucket properly, yet they didn't, and secrets are publicly accessible as a result. I remember the case of a third-party parking app leaking team members' emails. We were able to inform the impacted employees to take action and change their passwords."

> **"**
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> The main reason we work with CybelAngel is the visibility they provide over these misconfigurations that expose sensitive assets. We can be proactive at hindering external threats.
>
> **Erik Hart,**
> **Chief Information and Security Officer**
> **Cushman & Wakefield**
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> **"**

Erik's team can prioritize their incident response thanks to a risk-based process where CybelAngel assesses events' importance to their clients.

"We can ask our dedicated analyst for a post-event investigation to understand whether the exposed asset has already been compromised. It means we can adjust our response based on the risk level. At the end of the day, we can focus on what's critical first."

A good example of this risk-based approach's positive impact is the ability to monitor, detect, and respond to lookalike domains. "We are able to see URLs that may be close to being associated with us and understand whether they relate to phishing attempts or not. If it's malicious, we'll take it down. If it's shadow IT, we'll block the domain until the business unit responsible follows the approved registration procedure."

By securing their own assets from external threats, Erik's team improves the cybersecurity posture of their entire ecosystem. "It's still a lot on our shoulders to bring awareness to our partners about cyber-risks. But it is great to see that our overall resilience keeps improving. [...As we bring up events,] third-parties are willing to collaborate with us to avoid them from happening again."

RESULTS
in 12 months:

Dozens of exposed assets including vulnerable RDPs secured

138
138 cybersquatting attempts hindered

80%
Exposure to data breaches related to connected storage reduced by 80% year over year

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