Flynet Vitality Brief:

Plugin-Free Terminal Emulation



Situation

Netscape Plugin Application Programming Interface (NPAPI) is an API which allows plugins to be integrated into web browsers.

Some terminal emulators still require NPAPI to function such as those relying on the Java plugin or ActiveX components.

Obstacle

NPAPI support began to be phased out by many software vendors in 2013. This is due to the age of the API (having first been developed in 1995), ongoing security issues, and the use of alternative technologies such as HTML 5.

The only major web browser with NPAPI plugin support is Microsoft Internet Explorer. Microsoft is ending support for Internet Explorer on June 15th 2022.

Implication

For users of emulators which require NPAPI support to function this presents a number of dilemmas.

- Organizations risk losing access to their vital legacy systems once Microsoft's Internet Explorer support ends on June 15th 2022.
- The depreciation of the Java plugin means that these plugins lack security updates, leaving them exposed to future cyberthreats. Organizations still using software which requires them are increasing their threat surface and leaving themselves vulnerable to potentially damaging cyberattacks.
- Organizations will struggle to gain ISO 9001 Certification and risk becoming uncompliant in data security standards such as GDPR. They may also risk becoming uncompliant with insurance policies, if an incident occurs and an audit is conducted this will be especially risky.

Solution

A solution is to move to a pure-html alternative emulator such as Flynet Viewer TE. Being pure html means that Flynet TE can be accessed on any existing web browser, including the most popular browsers on the market (both desktop and mobile based, across a wide variety of operating systems). It is also optimized for all browsers- ensuring optimized usability for all users.

Flynet Viewer TE requires no downloads, outdated plugins, launchers, or additional software to operate. This allows for consistent maximum security. It can also be administered centrally via its admin console. Flynet helps minimize your organization's threat surface while removing the need for users to download and update software client-side.

Conclusion:

Flynet Viewer TE represents an excellent alternative for users of terminal emulators which rely on the Java plugin or ActiveX components. Flynet allows access to legacy systems on any web browser safely and securely with minimal disruption or upkeep.

