

“24 Heures du Mans”: NETASQ takes the lead in the security race!

The Automobile Club de l'Ouest has been entrusting NETASQ for the past 5 years with the security of its entire information network

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The “24 heures du Mans”, the world's oldest sports car race in endurance racing, is the place by excellence for the expression of new technologies, precision and security.

A broadband infrastructure has been set up over the whole circuit – in the pits in order to provide internet access to the racing teams and in the press rooms, etc. to ensure the continuity and proper operation of data exchanges and communications during the mythical 24-hour circuit.

Over the weekend of the 13th and 14th of June 2009, Le Mans becomes the center of attention for all automobile lovers. The information network that has been set up is a multi-service network (internet, VoIP, video, timekeeping, access control, etc), which has to be of exemplary reliability and security.

The importance of information confidentiality is such that the optimum level of security is required.

Performance and reliability of the solutions were therefore the predominant criteria for the *Automobile Club de l'Ouest* during the selection process, as highlighted by Mr **Fabrice Gérard (CIO with ACO)**.

“We were looking for a way to protect not just data transmitted by the racing teams but also data concerning the administrative management of the race, for which we needed a product that could secure a 100-megabit internet connection and handle multiple networks.” As such, a relationship of trust was gradually forged as NETASQ has been securing for 5 years now the entire information network of the “24 Heures du Mans” circuit.

NETASQ solutions are tasked with securing data traffic in the press room to ensure that journalists covering the event get the best service (sending articles, images and videos in a fully secure environment) and that the internet network is available to the racing teams and in other infrastructures on the circuit, for example.

Outside the scope of the event, the *Automobile Club de l'Ouest* is also fitted out with NETASQ equipment, all year long, to secure every segment of its network.

NETASQ and its partner ILLICO RESEAU (www.illico-reseau.com) have applied all their know-how and expertise to allow this event to run optimally and in the best conditions.

“NETASQ and ACO are constantly on the outlook to provide performing and reliable security solutions. We and Illico Reseaux our partner are proud to contribute to an event as prestigious as the “24 Heures du Mans.”, said **François LAVASTE, CEO and President of NETASQ**.

About the Automobile Club de l'Ouest

The A.C.O., creator and organizer of the 24 Hours of Le Mans, was established in 1906 by a group of passionate men who saw the automobile as a major invention that would revolutionize the 20th century. The A.C.O. now includes 100,000 members.

For more than 100 years, the A.C.O. has been working towards the development of its community objectives – participating in the combat against the inherent dangers of road traffic; representing its members before public and civil authorities and before any organization whose business is knowing the problems relating to automobiles and traffic; developing through education and training the use of cars and motorcycles; providing its members with the information, services, assistance and defense that they might need; creating solidarity and friendship

between its members and gathering them with the aim of a common action to defend their collective interests as road users; organizing athletic events directly or indirectly relating to automobiles and motorcycles.

About Illico

Established in 1995, ILLICO developed the branch *ILLICO réseau*, essentially specializing in the definition and integration of secure network architectures. This technique centers on the auditing, consultancy and setup of security products such as firewalls, antivirus servers, mail servers and various content filter mechanisms. *ILLICO Réseau* applies all its skills in the corporate realm as well as in the events sector.

The success of the projects, led by its network experts as well as the attention paid to the needs of its clients make the realization of tested and sustainable solutions possible.

About NETASQ

With more than 45,000 products sold worldwide to date via a distribution channel of more than 300 partners spread out in more than 30 countries, NETASQ has made a name for itself as a major player in the information security field. NETASQ solutions efficiently meet the needs that enterprises have for a unified form of protection from network threats and spam.

For more information: <http://www.netasq.com>

Photos and logos: <http://www.netasq.com/marketing/marketing.php>

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