Firewalls are an essential part of modern cybersecurity. They’re used for securing multi-cloud and hybrid ecosystems, enforcing security policies, detecting threats and more. In 2022, the market saw a surge in demand, pushing the industry to $3 billion in quarterly revenue, 50% of which can be attributed to the top three firewall vendors in the industry.

When a Fortune 500 cybersecurity solutions company needed to replace the proprietary database embedded in its firewall devices, the company knew it needed a modern, enterprise-grade solution that it – and its customers – could rely on. It turned to MariaDB.

THE CHALLENGE

The Fortune 500 company offers a firewall device used by thousands of customers to secure their network. On each device, an embedded database is used to store the firewall configurations and to monitor the status of the device as well as send alerts if something in the device needs attention. The database is critical to the firewall device operating effectively and protecting its customers from cyber attacks. Previously Sybase, a proprietary database, was embedded into these devices.

With Sybase end of life (EOL) approaching, the company knew it was time to find a modern, open source replacement that could fulfill these requirements:

• Highly stable and resilient with zero outages
• Adaptable to its existing tech stack, operating system and specific requirements
• Offers enterprise-grade security features
• Low cost as each device needs its own embedded database

The company considered various options on the market, but the challenge it faced – as many ISVs and OEMs face today – was finding an embedded database that had the flexibility of an open source solution, while also providing the high performance, reliability, and security often associated with proprietary solutions.

THE SOLUTION

The Fortune 500 company quickly realized that MariaDB Enterprise Server was the only option on the market that could provide the best of both worlds – and at an affordable price. Additionally, the company had prior experience with MariaDB. Its teams were already familiar with the database and, because it’s a SQL database, didn’t require extensive training or new skill sets to deploy the technology quickly.

Rather than use an unsupported open source version, the company chose MariaDB’s enterprise version for its added stability, hardening and security. By implementing recommended configurations from the MariaDB team, the company was able to ensure high availability for its firewall device.
The team at MariaDB also worked hand-in-hand with the company to ensure its instances of MariaDB Enterprise Server were designed to meet its specific needs, including a configuration designed for its preferred OS. MariaDB support remains a resource the company can rely on for future assistance and troubleshooting.

For these reasons, the Fortune 500 company decided to embed MariaDB Enterprise Server into the estimated 40-60,000 units it will ship over the next five years.

THE RESULTS

Since embedding the MariaDB Enterprise Server into its firewall devices, the Fortune 500 networking and cybersecurity solutions company has experienced the following benefits:

Enterprise-Level Security
MariaDB Enterprise Server protects the company and its end users with many layers of security, including end-to-end encryption, dynamic data masking, and a powerful firewall that blocks queries from malicious actors.

Stability and Performance
MariaDB Enterprise Server meets the company’s high-availability requirements with automatic, zero-interruption failover, and clustering, to ensure the firewall devices never leave the end user vulnerable.

Peace of Mind with 24x7x365 Support
MariaDB’s high availability paired with 24x7x365 support gives the company peace of mind. Should the company hit any bumps, MariaDB support will be there to troubleshoot without delay, anywhere in the world.

A Fraction of the Cost of Proprietary Databases
Customers can save up to 90% of proprietary database costs with MariaDB Enterprise Server. The cost of getting started with MariaDB is free, which made it easy for the company to prove out the use case and show the value of moving to MariaDB Enterprise Server.

Interested in embedding MariaDB Enterprise Server? Become a partner today!