

Örebro Kommun Secures Decision-making Information for Politicians with AirWatch

The Client

Örebro Kommun is the local government organization for Örebro, a city in central Sweden. With 135,000 inhabitants, it is the country's seventh largest municipality. The organization employs 12,000 people and is governed by a municipal council, which is made up of representatives of the political parties. Tablets were provided to the municipality staff with the expectation that implementing a mobile initiative would cut costs and increase environmental benefits by reducing the amount of printed material.



The Challenge

Many government organizations now allow employees to use corporate-owned devices, or employee-owned devices as part of a bring your own device (BYOD) program. Until recently, it was common for politicians to use their mobile devices only for personal purposes. BYOD initiatives help facilitate improved communications and connectivity between committee members, providing the flexibility for them to work anywhere, at any time. However, the sensitivity of public sector information makes the need to secure data a top priority for IT administrators. To mitigate potential data breaches, many political institutions, including Örebro Kommun, have turned to an enterprise mobility management solution to safeguard their devices.

Solution Overview

- Customer: Örebro Kommun
- Industry: Government
- Geography: Sweden
- Features: MDM, MAM, MCM
- Devices: 500 – 1,000

The Solution

Örebro Kommun selected AirWatch® by VMware® to deliver secure access to information through mobile devices to politicians, including representatives on the City Council Assembly and members of the City Executive Committee. "The safety of information accessed through tablets is critical for us. We sought a solution that would provide suitable device and application management," said Roine Johansson, system administrator, Örebro Kommun. "Before using AirWatch, the IT team secured tablets through a manual process with certificates and a native device tool, which was very complicated."



Örebro Kommun uses AirWatch to manage 700 corporate-owned iPads[®], as well as the applications on those devices. AirWatch enables the organization to control access to sensitive data, track and wipe devices, and apply device-specific rules depending on the location of politicians. "For the protection of critical information, we rely on the AirWatch safety features for policies and profiles. If the politicians are in the City Council House, they can view their required documents. If they are outside, the system will not allow it," explained Mr. Johansson.

Örebro Kommun discovered AirWatch through its Swedish partner, InfraAdvice, and selected the platform based on functionality and pricing structure. "In comparison with other solutions, AirWatch is particularly easy to integrate with our internal systems and we value its administrative control and wiping features," said Mr. Johansson. "The implementation process was so simple that I was the only person involved in it."

Politicians often access confidential documents on their mobile devices, including information that is used to make political decisions. For this reason, the municipality's information security policies are very strict and enforcing them is a high priority for the IT department. The advanced security capabilities of AirWatch, including user authentication using AD/LDAP, certificate-based access to enterprise email, Wi-Fi and VPN networks, help Örebro Kommun to meet its requirements. "We need the ability to integrate with the Active Directory, PKI and our internal content, so we cannot do without AirWatch[®] Cloud Connector," said Mr. Johansson.

Up Next

Örebro Kommun plans to deploy around 1,500 Samsung KNOX and SAFE devices with AirWatch, using Near Field Communication, which will enable staff to use their mobile phones to access government offices. Part of the deployment will include a BYOD initiative.

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– Roine Johansson
System Administrator
Örebro Kommun

