

InDorse unwraps data-protection suite

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Tools can monitor, detect and block the use of data in Microsoft's SharePoint environments

By Ellen Messmer , Network World , 03/23/2009

Start-up InDorse Technologies has unveiled a data-protection suite aimed at preventing unauthorized use of documents in a SharePoint environment. (Compare Data Leak Protection products.)

InDorse Discover, Tag and Protect is a set of tools that provides a way to monitor, detect and, if necessary, block the use of data associated with Microsoft's SharePoint server platform. The InDorse product combines elements seen in data-leak prevention products and digital rights management.

Metadata "tags" for each document can record a document's activity, logging it in a repository, as well as help enforce policies, says Rob Marano, founder and CEO of New York City-based InDorse.

"The second part of this is the Protect policy-enforcement engine, which can block access to documents based on policies such as not allowing a copy of a file to be made," Marano says. He notes InDorse does not require use of special client software.

The InDorse product suite includes an appliance (sold as hardware or a virtual machine software appliance for either the Microsoft hypervisor or VMware's ESX server), which performs an inventory of file assets. The InDorse product allows companies to organize documents into clusters that can be sorted and classified for viewing and printing privileges.

Marano, who played founding roles at Riversoft and Micromuse, credits software development work on tagging he saw at a small company called House of Development in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for inspiring the creation of the InDorse suite.

"I thought, I'll take this idea of tagging and built a product around it," Marano says.

InDorse, which today has about 15 employees, is funded largely by a \$5 million investment from Bahrain-based VC Bank. House of Development is a minority investor.

Investment firm Credit Suisse is piloting InDorse Discover, Tag and Protect and providing critical feedback in its development, Marano says. InDorse in the future may introduce versions of its product for use with Oracle.

The product suite starts at \$50,000 for a 250-user base.