

Leading Global Financial Institution Enhances Its Zero Trust Framework through Centralized Policy-Based Access Control

A global leader in financial services, embarked on a journey to implement a Zero Trust Architecture to strengthen its security posture and adapt to evolving regulatory demands. As part of this initiative, the organization recognized the need to dynamically control access across key layers of its architecture. They chose PlainID to centralize and streamline its authorization processes, enhancing security, reducing operational overhead, and aligning access controls with Zero Trust principles.

CHALLENGES

A leading global financial institution sought to enhance its security posture through a Zero Trust Architecture that would adapt to evolving regulatory demands and operational needs. Traditional Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) and siloed systems were too static to meet modern security requirements, and the organization faced several key challenges:



Aligning with Zero Trust: The organization needed Policy-Based Access Control (PBAC) to protect its critical network and 2,400+ applications, supporting Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA) and dynamic authorization.



Gaps in Access Controls: Within the enterprise's security framework, tight controls were minimal, indicating an urgent need for a solution that could scale across systems and enforce more granular access control.



Operational Friction: The existing access request and entitlement review processes generated friction, especially for employees transitioning between roles, adding to operational overhead and reducing efficiency.



Compliance and Risk Management: With increasing regulatory requirements and risk indicators, the institution required a proactive, scalable approach to meet compliance needs and mitigate potential risks.



INDUSTRY: Banking & Financial Services

EMPLOYEES: 240,000+

CUSTOMERS: 200,000,000+

HEADQUARTER: New York, NY

CHALLENGES

- Zero Trust Strategy Alignment
- Lack of Centralized Access Control
- Operational Friction
- Risk & Compliance Management

SOLUTION

PlainID was used to advance Zero Trust by centralizing dynamic access controls across network and application layers. The PBAC approach enabled dynamic authorization with token enrichment, reducing friction and enhancing data governance. Ultimately, PlainID strengthened security, improved compliance, and supported proactive risk management.

SOLUTION

The organization implemented PlainID for Policy-Based Access Control (PBAC) to support its Zero Trust goals. The solution centralized access management, enabling dynamic policies for user access across applications, infrastructure, and network layers. Key Features and Implementation Highlights:

- **Centralized Policy Management:** Integrating PBAC with Zscaler provided centralized management and governance of access policies, allowing the organization to streamline and enforce policies consistently across network-level access points. This approach strengthened Zero Trust by enabling seamless, efficient control over access policies, and reducing the complexity of policy updates.
- **Application Access Control:** PlainID integrated with over 2,400 applications, enriching tokens through PingFederate to apply consistent, context-based policies. This reduced reliance on static, application-level databases and enabled flexible policy control.
- **Dynamic Authorization:** PlainID's token enrichment allowed real-time access decisions with user attributes attached, facilitating precise control for microservices and APIs and supporting scalable deployment across applications.
- **Secure Access to Data:** PBAC enabled detailed row- and object-level controls, securing data access by dynamically linking policies to user attributes, which strengthened data governance and compliance.

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"Partnering with PlainID has been invaluable. Instead of building a solution in-house, PlainID provided us with the orchestration and controls we needed from day one. This collaboration has been a key driver in achieving our Zero Trust and access control objectives."

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Global Head of Engineering
& IAM Services

BUSINESS RESULTS WITH PLAINID



IMPROVED SECURITY & COMPLIANCE

- **Enhanced Security Posture:** By implementing PBAC within a Zero Trust framework, the organization achieved fine-grained control over access, reducing risks of unauthorized access and meeting regulatory requirements with improved auditability.



OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

- **Operational Efficiency and Cost Savings:** Centralizing and automating access controls significantly reduced manual processes, cutting administrative and operational overhead and freeing up resources to focus on strategic initiatives.



SCALABILITY & FLEXIBILITY

- **Scalability and Future-Readiness:** The PBAC framework seamlessly supports future growth, enabling scalable access management as new applications and data platforms are onboarded, ensuring long-term ROI.

ABOUT PLAINID

PlainID is the world's leading provider of enterprise Authorization, helping enterprises address the complex challenges of Identity Security. The PlainID Platform allows you to discover, manage, and authorize access control policies for enterprise applications and data. Our solution is architected to protect against identity-centric security threats powered by Policy-Based Access Control (PBAC). Visit PlainID.com for more information. Visit PlainID.com for more information..