

Ironclad reduces attack surface and onboarding time with Delinea Runtime Authorization

How Ironclad added granular auditing, onboarded users through Google Groups and stopped distributing database credentials to staff

✔ Challenges

Ironclad struggled with two main issues: managing endpoint access and auditing user activity.

Virtual private networks (VPNs) were expensive from both a budget and a maintenance perspective. They required significant effort to maintain but did not provide the evidence auditors needed for SOC 2 compliance. Specifically, VPNs could not prove that Ironclad was preventing unauthorized access to its databases.

As Ironclad evaluated options, it needed a solution that could satisfy SOC 2 requirements and support its entire backend stack, including the database management system (DBMS) from a recent acquisition.

✔ Solution

A few Ironclad employees had used Delinea runtime authorization at previous companies and recommended it because it was easy to set up, particularly on the Kubernetes side. Ironclad did its due diligence, and the decision was unanimous.

The team chose Delinea runtime authorization for its granular auditing and its ability to grant temporary access to resources. The team also liked that it integrates with Google Workspace, forwards logs to Datadog and supports Slack alerts.



Being able to see every user's query, connection access, and network access is fantastic."

→ Nate Schlitt, Software Engineer, Ironclad

Background

Ironclad frees legal professionals from administrative work by turning contracts into business assets, so teams can extract valuable information to drive business decisions.

The company employs more than 600 people and runs on Google Cloud Platform (GCP), AWS and Kubernetes. It operates under the SOC 2 and ISO 27001 compliance frameworks.

By choosing Delinea runtime authorization, Ironclad freed its own professionals to focus on improving its product rather than manually managing infrastructure and user access.





The access control has helped us out the most. And with audit logging, it's very easy for the auditors to see what queries are being run by a particular person at a particular time. That granular level auditing — I can't stress enough how big of a win it is.”

→ Nate Schlitt, Software Engineer, Ironclad

According to Nate Schlitt, Software Engineer at Ironclad, query logging and Secure Shell (SSH) replay sessions are among the most useful features. The team can see what the user typed, and the commands executed.

✓ Results

The most significant benefit for Ironclad has been the time saved onboarding new users. Ironclad uses Google Groups, and when a user is added to a group, they automatically get access to resources through Delinea runtime authorization. The team can drag and drop a new user into a role that matches their group, and access is assigned automatically with least privilege permissions by default. Before Delinea runtime authorization, new accounts and local provisioning had to be configured manually.

Delinea runtime authorization reduced Ironclad's attack surface in two ways. The company no longer distributes database credentials to staff, who instead authenticate through Google. Because the underlying credentials are never stored on staff workstations, they cannot be compromised there. Ironclad also restricts access to isolated subnets with Delinea runtime authorization's egress-only proxy, so all traffic passes through the proxy. This protects the backend systems from unauthorized access.

With less administrative overhead, Ironclad now has more time and resources to help legal professionals streamline their own work.

Delinea is an identity security platform governing what AI agents, humans and machines can do, and for how long. Just-in-time authorization extends privileged access management from access to action, cutting standing privilege across on-premise, multi-cloud and ephemeral infrastructure. Its platform scores identity risk and keeps access decisions auditable. Over 9,000 organizations, including two-thirds of the Fortune 100, rely on Delinea. Learn more at delinea.com.