HAMBS Leverages Forum Sentry to Securely Expose APIs

HAMBS is the creator and provider of the HAMBS (Hospital and Medical Benefits System) application, software used by 23 health insurance funds in Australia. Similar to many enterprise organizations, HAMBS has seen a rapid growth in the number of apps and services that customers and partners need to access. Many of these applications utilize different authentication and authorization methods, making access even more complex. With Forum Sentry, HAMBS was able to achieve API access that is both agile and secure.

COMPANY:

HAMBS

CHALLENGE:

HAMBS sought to securely expose their APIs to private health insurance funds, third parties and internal clients.

SOLUTION:

Forum Sentry API Gateway

The Challenge

As part of an infrastructure modernization initiative, HAMBS sought to securely expose their APIs to private health insurance funds, third parties and internal clients. Given the sensitive nature of the information being exposed through their APIs, data security is of paramount importance.

In addition to security, HAMBS required a solution that could integrate with new applications as well as legacy apps. To do this, the solution had to support multiple authentication and authorization methods, including Basic Auth and OAuth 2.0. And, the solution needed to provide SOAP-to-REST conversion in order to enable RESTful apps to communicate with their existing SOAP infrastructure.

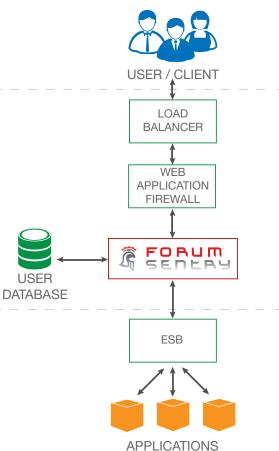
The Solution

HAMBS set out to identify API gateway vendors to participate in a proof of concept. After assessing several industry offerings, HAMBS initiated a proof of concept with the Forum Sentry API Gateway and one other gateway provider. It didn't take long to conclude that Forum Systems was the best solution for HAMBS' needs.

"Forum Systems' support is second to none. They quickly had us up and running and promptly handled all of our requests." – John Ginn, System Architect

Forum Sentry is the only API gateway to achieve FIPS 140-2 and Network Device Protection Profile (NDPP) compliance. With the most robust security architecture designs in the industry, it was exactly what HAMBS was looking for.

"Forum Systems' security-first approach was a huge factor in our decision to go with Forum Sentry. Forum Sentry truly outperformed all of our evaluation criteria and provided great features for the price." – Derek Grocke, Service Delivery Manager



The certified, secure Forum Sentry API Gateway is architected to be deployed at the network edge, where it performs complex access control decisions and enforcement. Supporting a comprehensive set of authentication tokens, including OAuth 2.0, Forum Sentry acts as both an authorization server and a resource server where it must authenticate inbound credentials with a custom internal database schema; federate these credentials via OAuth tokens for SSO; and delegate authentication to other services and APIs.

Another hallmark of the Forum Sentry API Gateway is its no-code approach to provisioning and deploying policies. With a simple point-and-click interface, Forum Sentry enabled HAMBS to quickly expose new APIs and build a policy platform that is easy to maintain and extend. Further, Forum Sentry helps modernize the HAMBS architecture while preserving precious time and resources, providing the organization with an agile, secure infrastructure to create more applications and better serve their customers.

About HAMBS



HAMBS provides a wide range of software development and hosting services to Australia's private health insurance industry. Established in 1991, HAMBS was formed when the then users of the HAMBS application purchased the intellectual property from the original developer of the software. At that time, there were three HAMBS employees looking after 20 member funds.

In a rapidly growing industry with increased regulation, technological advances and in an increased competitive environment, HAMBS continues to grow and expand on the services available to its customers. Today, HAMBS has more than 70 professional staff servicing 23 health funds nationwide, including the hosting of the application and network services for 19 funds. www.hambs.com.au

About Forum Systems

Forum Systems is the global leader in agile API security with industry-certified, patented and proven products deployed in the most rigorous and demanding customer environments worldwide. An industry leader for more than 14 years, Forum Systems has built the core architecture of its technology on the foundation of FIPS 140-2 and NDPP. Forum Systems' security-first mindset enables trusted network edge deployments of its technology for protecting critical enterprise transactions. For more information, please contact us at (781) 791-7510 or (888) 811-0060 or sales@forumsys.com. Please visit us at forumsys.com.

To learn more about implementing OAuth with Forum Sentry, click here.