



The municipality of Baden-Württemberg is arming itself against cyber attacks with Bromium



From left to right: BITBW President Christian Leinert, Jochen Koehler, Regional Director DACH of Bromium, the Minister of the Interior, Digitalization and Migration Thomas Strobl and the CIO/CDO of the state government Stefan Krebs following the contract signing. (Source: Bromium)

The municipality of Baden-Württemberg safeguards 60,000 clients with the secure platform of Bromium. Using micro-virtualization, the state's IT system can best be protected from novel cyber attacks.

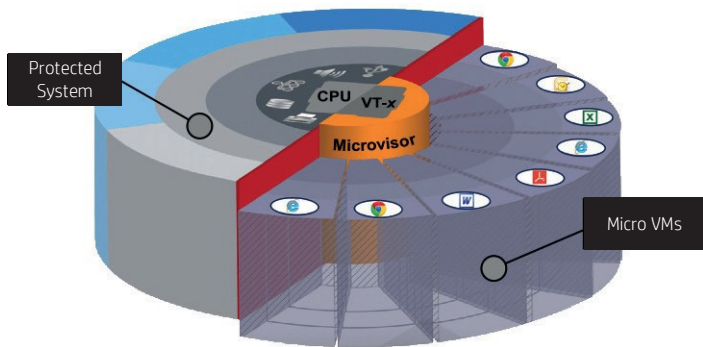
With over 60,000 employees in the municipality of Baden-Württemberg, who require Internet and email communication regularly to manage their daily operations, the goal is to optimally protect a huge, attack-prone area. Over six million emails arrive every week in the electronic mailboxes, more than 85 percent of this is from undesired advertising content that is received or malware codes or

viruses, Trojans or ransomware. To prevent the widest range of attacks on IT security, the municipality of Baden-Württemberg has so far used security solutions such as firewalls, web and email filters, protected browser areas and anti-virus programs. With these conventional actions, companies and authorities still can hardly reliably detect zero-day attacks, advanced persistent threats or always

refined ransomware Trojans. The reason: These solutions rely on the detection of known malware software; traditionally, the suppliers of security tools are always lagging one step behind the attackers.

Prepared for all hazards in the future

The supreme state authority IT Baden-Württemberg (BITBW), as the central IT service provider of the municipality, therefore decided on the application-isolation solution Secure Platform by Bromium, the pioneer in the micro virtualization on end devices. "In Baden-Württemberg, we are continuously working on data security. With the new technology of micro-visualization, the IT system of the state can be even better protected in the future against non-detectable malware software," explains State Minister Director Stefan Krebs.



The BITBW was supported by the IT service provider Computacenter in implementation. Computacenter set up a test environment according to the specifications in which the Bromium software was checked under real conditions. Following the successful Proof of Concept, the concept should be used comprehensively on all clients of the ministries and other service areas of the state until the end of 2020.

Isolation instead of detection is the motto

Bromium performs risky user activities such as opening an email attachment, downloading documents or accessing websites not from authorities in what is known as micro VM's. They are dynamically generated, virtual

environments in which the users continue as usual. By running the applications in isolation, no malware code can then attack one's own operating system. Compromising the end device and thereafter the company network is thereby precluded. The Bromium solution Secure Platform implements the encapsulation through hardware-insulated micro-virtualization. The core elements are a Xen-based hypervisor especially developed in terms of security and the integrated virtual features of all current CPU generations.

"The optimization of actual security is an ongoing topic in which all aspects are to be taken into account in the sense of a 360-degree analysis", says Christian Leinert, President of the BITBW. "The Bromium solution offers a very high level of security. We expect even more effective protection of the client and rely on the fact that, in reaction to the improvement in usability, we can forego other security mechanisms."

About BITBW

The superior state authority IT Baden-Württemberg (BITBW) is the central IT provider of the municipality. The BITBW was founded on July 1, 2015 as the core of the new IT ordinance. The product portfolio includes the operation, maintenance and further processing of the state IT system. All setups and service centers directly from the municipality acquire IT services as customers from the BITBW. Currently, the BITBW has almost 500 employees. Further information at www.bitbw.de.

About Bromium

Bromium, with its headquarters in Cupertino in the Silicon Valley, is a pioneer in the area of application isolation using micro-visualization. Unlike conventional solutions, Bromium does not rely on the recognition of malware code but rather prevents its effects: Malware of all kinds, regardless of whether it is from the web emails or USB devices, remains safe because every user task is run in a hardware-isolated micro-VM. Bromium can then prevent the operating system from being compromised. Further information at www.bromium.com.