



Gila River Hotels & Casinos

Reducing spend and increasing security with a vCISO

The Company

Gila River Hotels & Casinos operates three Arizona casinos owned by the Gila River Indian Community: Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte and Vee Quiva. All three casinos offer a combination of slots, table games, bingo, poker and hotels, and are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Challenge

For Gila River Hotels & Casinos, the protection of their guests, infrastructure, data and revenue is paramount.

As an organization that has grown exponentially over the years, including changes in infrastructure, staff and technology; ensuring that their overall security posture allows them to adhere to compliance mandates and is able to address today's and adapt to tomorrow's mounting security threats, was at the forefront of their IT endeavors.

However, Gila River lacked the resources and expertise to dedicate to the development and implementation of a tailored security strategy that complies with their regulatory requirements. They turned to OneNeck, a longstanding partner of over 20 years, to help address their security needs.

"We needed a resource with the breadth and depth of experience to help Gila River evolve our overall security posture, adopt more effective security policies, and provide ongoing training to my IT Teams," said Chris Bolton, Chief Information Officer at Gila River Hotels & Casinos. "However, bringing on a full-time Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) would require additional budget and time spent onboarding a new employee, ultimately prolonging the completion dates of many of our security initiatives. With OneNeck's new virtual CISO (vCISO) offering, we were able to address our security needs immediately, without the constraints and prohibitive costs associated with a traditional CISO hire."

The OneNeck® IT Solutions Answer

The custom-tailored journey began with the goal of building a successful information security program that was the right fit for Gila River's needs. One that ensures the appropriate mechanisms were in place to help identify and prevent the compromise of information security and availability of Gila River's data.



Rather than reinventing the wheel, OneNeck security experts leveraged Gila River’s existing mapped assessments, including their Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) and Gaming Laboratory International (GLI) audits, to help identify any security gaps, outline remediation steps and ultimately build a security framework Gila River can leverage on their own.

Specific achievements include:

- Performed an organizational and technical security assessment with gap analysis
- Defined a risk-based security strategy
- Developed and documented security policies, procedures and configuration standards
- Developed strategic IT roadmaps
- Instituted a vulnerability management program
- Instituted a comprehensive breach detection program with active monitoring
- Introduced a security awareness program

Gila River Hotels & Casinos Summary

Organization	Gila River Hotels & Casinos
Industry	Casino and Gaming
Business Challenges	Develop/implement a tailored security strategy to meet regulatory requirements and enhance overall security posture.

The Benefits

The significant cost savings by eliminating the need to hire additional headcount was substantial. In addition, by leveraging OneNeck’s vCISO offering, Gila River was able to take advantage of the following benefits:

- **Improved Security-** Gila River maintains the confidentiality, integrity and availability of their data on and off network, and continues to reduce risk by leveraging OneNeck’s vCISO for continual security improvements.
- **Reallocation of Time and Resources-** With OneNeck’s vCISO shouldering the strategic security responsibilities, Gila River’s IT resources are free to focus on other strategic initiatives.
- **Streamlined Reporting-** Access to clear and concise reporting that details where Gila River stands from a security/framework perspective has made it easier to articulate their security status to non-technical senior leadership members.
- **Security Expertise-** OneNeck’s vCISO serves as an expert advisor in the development, implementation and maintenance of an information security infrastructure that ensures that security and privacy best practice control objectives are achieved.

“OneNeck’s vCISO offering has provided us with tremendous value from day one. We have been able to vastly improve our existing information security program and boost our overall security posture. I am confident that we have best practices and standards in place and are well maintained in areas of privacy, data handling, incident response and more,” said Bolton.

About OneNeck IT Solutions

OneNeck IT Solutions provides world-class, hybrid IT solutions for thousands of businesses around the globe. From cloud and hosting solutions to managed services, ERP application management, professional services, IT hardware and top-tier data centers in Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Oregon and Wisconsin, OneNeck has the expertise to help customers navigate the cloud to get the right application on the right cloud at the right time.

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