Forcepoint

Forcepoint DSPM and Forcepoint DLP—An E5 Alternative

Leveraging Forcepoint DSPM and Forcepoint DLP to supplement and replace Microsoft E5 licensing

Challenge

› Organizations struggle for comprehensive security due to the complex licensing model and expensive products offered through Microsoft E5.

› Since security tools provided by Microsoft are designed to function within its own ecosystem, organizations that utilize non-Microsoft platforms such as Google Workspace may find gaps in coverage.

Solution

› Forcepoint Data Security Posture Management (DSPM) and Forcepoint Data Loss Prevention (DLP) offer an alternative to Microsoft E5, extending protection beyond the Microsoft ecosystem.

› Forcepoint offers flexible licensing models so organizations can scale according to their unique needs and budgets.

Outcome

› Forcepoint's Data Security Everywhere approach reduces complexity and minimizes management overhead.

› Forcepoint streamlines compliance for regulations such as GDPR, HIPAA and CCPA with AI-powered data classification and labeling.

› Forcepoint uses AI data classification to identify and mitigate risks associated with oversharing, data loss and unauthorized access.

As organizations navigate the complexities of data security in an increasingly digital and distributed world, the need for comprehensive, flexible and efficient solutions becomes paramount. This proposal outlines how Forcepoint DSPM and DLP solutions can both supplement and replace the Microsoft E5 license. By extending beyond the Microsoft ecosystem to cover platforms like Google Workspace, on-premises environments, highly regulated air-gapped systems and endpoints, Forcepoint offers a unified approach to data security that aligns business policies and enhances regulatory compliance while reducing overall data risk.

Challenges with Microsoft's Data Security Licensing and Capabilities

→ **High Learning Curve:** Security and Risk Management (SRM) leaders frequently encounter difficulties deciphering Microsoft's data security licensing structures. The Microsoft Purview suite, while comprehensive within its ecosystem, presents complexities.

→ **Complex Licensing Model:** Microsoft's data security offerings are segmented across various tiers and add-ons. Organizations often struggle to determine which features are included in their current licenses, leading to confusion and potential underutilization of available tools.

→ **Cost-Prohibitive Advanced Features:** Advanced data security capabilities such as forensics, file type coverage and Information Protection are typically reserved for the top-tier E5 license or require additional purchases. This creates financial barriers for organizations seeking robust data protection without escalating costs.

→ **Limited Cross-Platform Support:** Microsoft's data security tools are primarily designed for its own ecosystem. This focus can leave gaps in coverage for today's organizations that operate across multiple platforms and environments.

Limitations of the Microsoft E5 License

While the Microsoft E5 license offers enhanced features within the Microsoft environment, it has notable limitations:

→ **Inadequate Coverage Outside Microsoft Ecosystem:** E5's data security features often do not extend effectively to non-Microsoft platforms such as Google Workspace or various SaaS applications, nor do they fully support on-premises or air-gapped environments.

→ **Complex Implementation and Resource Requirements:** Leveraging the full capabilities of E5 requires significant expertise and resources, potentially leading to increased operational overhead and delayed time to value.

→ **Risk of Overspending and Underutilization:** Organizations may invest in E5 licenses without fully utilizing the advanced features, resulting in poor return on investment and the phenomenon of "shelfware."

The Need for Comprehensive Data Security Solutions

In today's diverse IT landscapes, organizations require data security solutions that provide universal visibility and control, extending beyond a single ecosystem to encompass all data repositories, whether in the cloud, on-premises or in hybrid configurations.

→ **Support Highly Regulated and Air-Gapped Environments:** Offer robust security for sensitive data in environments with strict compliance requirements and limited connectivity.

→ **Integrate Seamlessly Across Platforms:** Ensure consistent data classification, labeling and protection across various platforms and applications.

→ **Align with Business Policies and Objectives:** Enable the derivation and enforcement of data policies that reflect the organization's unique risk profile and regulatory obligations.

How Forcepoint DSPM and Forcepoint DLP Address These Challenges

Forcepoint solutions are designed to meet these needs effectively:

→ **Extended Platform Coverage:** Forcepoint DSPM and Forcepoint DLP extend data discovery and classification capabilities beyond the Microsoft estate to include Google Workspace, other cloud platforms, on-premises servers, endpoints and even air-gapped environments. This ensures no data is left unprotected regardless of where it resides.

→ **Unified Data Classification and Labeling:** Forcepoint can apply and extend Microsoft sensitivity labels across all locations and platforms. This unification ensures consistent data handling policies are enforced organization-wide, simplifying compliance and reducing risk.

→ **Business-Driven Policy Management:** Forcepoint DSPM allows businesses to derive and control data security policies directly. By involving stakeholders across departments, organizations can align security measures with business objectives, enhancing compliance and fostering a culture of security awareness.

Supplementing and Replacing a Microsoft E5 License with Forcepoint DSPM and Forcepoint DLP

→ **Comprehensive Data Protection:** The combined solution provides end-to-end data security across all platforms and environments, addressing the limitations of the Microsoft E5 license.

→ **Cost-Effective Licensing:** Organizations can avoid the high costs associated with upgrading to E5 licenses and purchasing additional Microsoft add-ons. Forcepoint's flexible licensing models allow for scaling based on organizational needs without unnecessary expenditures.

→ **Reduced Complexity:** By using Forcepoint's unified platform, organizations simplify their data security infrastructure, reducing the need for multiple disparate tools and the associated management overhead.

→ **Faster Time to Value:** Forcepoint solutions are designed for efficient deployment and integration, enabling organizations to realize benefits sooner compared to the complex implementation of advanced Microsoft features.

Benefits of Adopting Forcepoint DSPM and DLP Solutions

→ **Enhanced Regulatory Compliance:** Forcepoint's comprehensive data classification and labeling ensure adherence to regulations such as GDPR, HIPAA and CCPA across all data environments.

→ **Unified Policy Enforcement:** Forcepoint's Data Security Everywhere approach simplifies protection across all digital channels – including endpoints, cloud SaaS apps, web and email – in a single UI. This reduces complexity, minimizes management overhead and ensures consistent enforcement, providing comprehensive visibility and control over sensitive data, no matter where it resides.

→ **Reduced Data Risk:** By providing visibility into all data repositories, Forcepoint helps identify and mitigate risks associated with oversharing, data loss and unauthorized access.

→ **Visibility in Highly Regulated Environments:** Forcepoint's ability to operate in air-gapped and on-premises environments ensures that sensitive data in highly regulated sectors is adequately protected.

→ **Cost Savings:** Avoiding the high costs of Microsoft E5 licensing and leveraging Forcepoint's scalable solutions can lead to significant cost reductions.

→ **Improved ROI:** With better utilization of data security tools and avoidance of underused features, organizations can achieve a higher return on their investment.

Conclusion

In an era in which data security is paramount and regulatory landscapes are ever-evolving, organizations need solutions that are comprehensive, flexible and aligned with their specific needs. Forcepoint DSPM and Forcepoint DLP present a compelling case to supplement and even replace the Microsoft E5 license. By extending data discovery and protection beyond the Microsoft environment, unifying data classification and labeling across all platforms and enabling business-driven policy management, Forcepoint empowers organizations to achieve enhanced compliance, reduced risk and operational efficiency.

We recommend considering the integration of Forcepoint data security solutions as a strategic move to bolster your organization's data security posture, ensuring that all data is secure anywhere it resides and everywhere it is used.

Next Steps

To further explore how Forcepoint can tailor its solutions to your organization's specific needs and provide a detailed cost-benefit analysis compared to the Microsoft E5 license, please consider scheduling a consultation with our team. We are committed to helping you navigate the complexities of data security and to providing solutions that align with your business objectives.

→ **Request a Demo**

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