CASE STUDY

HOW SHEEHAN NAGLE HARTRAY ARCHITECTS LEVELS UP SECURITY WITH DASHLANE

- Decreased exposure to company data breaches
- 20% Increase in Password Health Score in less than 7 months
- Strengthened password management for 100+ staff
CHALLENGES

Weak passwords + unsecure sharing = a blueprint for compromised data and security risks

In a world in which weak, stolen, and reused employee passwords are the #1 cause of security breaches, employees at leading architectural firm Sheehan Nagle Hartry Architects (SNHA) were risking millions every time they unsecurely shared a password. Not only did this leave the organization vulnerable to theft, but the sheer number of credentials was becoming too difficult to manage.

SNHA needed a password management solution to use organization-wide and help its 100+ person staff of architects and interior designers securely share office passwords.

As Tom recalls, SNHA didn't have any password complexity requirements, which was compromising the organization’s privacy and security.

“We wanted to make password management easy for our employees. Dashlane is about as easy and safe as it can get. I use it every day, and I have it pinned everywhere: on my browser, taskbar, and my phone.”

TOM KOWALKOWLSKI,
IT Technician, Sheehan Nagle Hartry Architects

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Many used weak passwords — think 123456, or “the classic” middle names, pet names and birth years. SNHA updated its password policy, asking its employees to use stronger passwords.

But this was easier said than done: The organization realized employees needed help generating stronger, more complex passwords and a safe place to store them. Some employees were still saving passwords on Post-it Notes. It might sound like something your great aunt would do, but the employees were so overwhelmed with remembering passwords that they resorted to this.

"In today’s day and age, if someone wants to get your passwords, they’ll find a way. There's no reason not to have them saved someplace safe,” says Tom.

One of the organization’s Program Coordinators first found Dashlane and was impressed by its intuitive design and easy-to-use features. The IT team quickly saw its value for the business side.

SNHA decided to first roll out Dashlane to its IT and admin team. As Tom recalls, it was a success:

“From the start, both IT and the admin teams used it a lot. Everyone has so many passwords to remember and Dashlane seemed like a no-brainer to have.”

Solution (cont.)

- **Password Generator** to generate strong, unique passwords for every account
- **Active Directory Integration** to automatically sync users for provisioning and deprovisioning accounts
- **Password Health Score** to identify which critical accounts to secure first

Results

- Increased Password Health Score by 20% in less than seven months
- Decreased exposure to company data breaches and password theft risks
- Increased password security company-wide
- Simplified password-sharing across teams
- Reduced time spent on password management
- Ultimate control over employee password behavior and better password management for admins

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“It didn't take long for the entire organization to adopt Dashlane and start storing, managing, and sharing business passwords the secure way.”

**SOLUTION**

**A sturdy foundation with total password protection and stress-free sharing, all in one**

SNHA rolled out Dashlane shortly after updating its privacy policy. The IT team encouraged employees to get longer, stronger passwords to minimize cyber risks and increase security. “But longer passwords mean more forgetful users,” highlights Tom.

With Dashlane’s Password Generator, team members started generating encrypted, no-one-could-ever-guess passwords for every account. And the best part is they only needed to remember one — the Master Password for their Dashlane account, where every other password is stored. “Dashlane generates up to 28 characters unique passwords and saves them all in one place, so we don’t need to remember them,” says Tom.

Providing secure passwords isn’t the only way Dashlane protects SNHA. Before Dashlane, the organization didn’t have a clear understanding of employee password behavior. With Dashlane’s Admin Console, SNHA now has a clear overview of its security relative to how many compromised passwords each employee has.

“Dashlane points out weak passwords, sends us security alerts and helps us update employee passwords more regularly. That’s pretty awesome,” says Tom.
The Active Directory Integration feature within the console helps admins easily onboard, offboard, and manage employees.

“Dashlane automatically syncs our staff. New users get a new license while old ones are quickly removed. It’s so easy I don’t even have to think about it anymore,” says Tom.

Dashlane provides the admin teams with tools to secure accounts, such as the Password Health Score. Determined by how many compromised, reused, or weak passwords each employee has, it shows how vulnerable the organization is to a potential breach so the admins can quickly act upon it.

SNHA wanted teams to share passwords across the organization while keeping data safe. As Tom remembers, Dashlane’s Password Sharing feature was a big factor in why they chose Dashlane. Thanks to it, “sharing passwords is much more secure than through Teams, Zoom or email,” he adds.

SNHA knows improving its security relies on the successful adoption of Dashlane among all employees, and Dashlane has started to make a good impression even among the skeptics. “Most people are reserved about adding their passwords in a tool, but with Dashlane, we’re starting to break that pattern,” says Tom.

**RESULTS**

**20% increase in Password Health Score in less than seven months**

Sheehan Nagle Hartray Architects had a hard time keeping track of (mis)managed passwords and managing employees’ bad password habits. People were juggling too many passwords and sharing them unsecurely, exposing the business to data breaches.

Since partnering up with Dashlane, SNHA has been taking the pain out of password management, leveling up its security practices. Employees generate unique, encrypted passwords that are safely stored in one place. This increased the organization’s control over password security, providing peace of mind.

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We know that the passwords Dashlane generates for us are always going to be the most secure," says Tom.

Dashlane has been helping users create better passwords, which, in turn, means stronger user accounts. As a result, the organization's Average Password Health Score increased by 20% in less than seven months. Dashlane's Admin Console provides transparency over how many compromised passwords each employee has, helping admin teams address employees' unsafe password behavior faster than ever.

With Dashlane, filling in passwords is only one click away. By providing employees with an uncomplicated tool they feel comfortable using, SNHA simplified adoption, which, in turn, improved security. Plus, no one's missing lunch breaks anymore looking for lost passwords. According to Tom, securely sharing company passwords through Dashlane is a big company win. It means employees are not sending them via Messenger or email anymore—which considerably reduces password theft risks. Apart from improving security, Dashlane is making the IT technician's job easier.

Dashlane has a great impact on my job. I have 115 passwords saved in Dashlane, and I don't have to remember any," says Tom.
He doesn’t waste time anymore creating complex, strong passwords for his accounts because Dashlane does it for him.

“Dashlane automatically generates passwords for me, so I don’t have to think about it.”

Simultaneously, admins have reduced the time spent onboarding, offboarding, and managing employees by automatically syncing staff. For SNHA, partnering with Dashlane is a no-brainer because it doesn’t just protect the organization’s digital identity — but enables an easier and more pleasant work experience.

“It feels great to be able to look at one screen and see so much relevant information, especially about something so important as passwords. With Dashlane, we have everything we need to know about our users’ passwords and health scores, all in one place. It’s almost too easy.”

TOTAL PASSWORD PROTECTION.
ZERO BUSINESS DISRUPTION.

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