

# Balancing Innovation and Security: Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet Secures Advanced Learning with Heimdal

## Case Study – Education (Vocational Tech)

Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet (CNG), a Swedish upper secondary school specializing in advanced technical programs, faced the complex challenge of maintaining workflow efficiency for specialized applications while mitigating the growing risks associated with Local Administrator Rights (LAR). Through a strategic partnership with Heimdal, CNG found the crucial middle ground, leveraging Heimdal's unified platform to secure its advanced learning environment without compromising user convenience or IT oversight.



### CHALLENGES

- **Balancing Advanced Applications with Security:** The school runs highly advanced applications not typically found in other schools, which required users to have Local Administrator Rights (LAR) for daily tasks like adjusting application settings.
- **Compromising Security vs. Workflow Efficiency:** As the threat landscape grew, CNG realized they could no longer operate with full LAR access for everyone. They needed to find a solution that allowed user control without sacrificing security or administrators' oversight.
- **Maintaining System Security from the User Side:** A key objective was to ensure systems remained secure from user actions, particularly given the extensive access requirements of their specialized software.



### SOLUTION

Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet sought a new cybersecurity solution to address the critical need for managing computers and access control, especially concerning LAR. After extensive online research, vendor recommendations, and a 2–3-month pilot phase comparing multiple solutions, Heimdal emerged as the ideal choice due to its user-friendliness, strong support during setup, and overall security effectiveness.

Heimdal's deployed solution includes:

- **Privilege Elevation and Delegation Management (PEDM):** This module aligned perfectly with CNG's need for a proper solution to manage LAR. It enabled the school to find a middle ground where users could perform tasks requiring administrative rights without having full, constant LAR access, allowing administrators to retain essential oversight.
- **Patch & Asset Management:** This module aids in managing updates across their diverse application environment. (Implied as part of the broader solution for updates and access control management).
- **Application Control (AC):** Helps keep systems secure from the user risk point of view.

Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet



### ABOUT CURT NICOLIN GYMNASIET

Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet is a Swedish upper secondary school known for its advanced applications and vocational programs in mechanics, electricity, and energy, alongside a popular technical program focused on design. The school makes heavy use of CAD, CAM, and container-based applications, which demand specific configurations and technical requirements. This results in a unique application landscape that differs significantly from many schools that rely more heavily on cloud solutions.



## IMPACT AND BENEFITS

Post-implementation, Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet experienced significant improvements in their security and operational efficiency:

- **Effective LAR Management:** Heimdal provided the crucial "middle ground" allowing users to perform necessary tasks for advanced applications without granting full LAR, successfully balancing workflow efficiency with security.
- **Strengthened Security Mindset:** Heimdal's focus on key security areas aligned well with CNG's needs, addressing critical vulnerabilities and enhancing their overall security posture.
- **Reliable & Responsive Support:** CNG benefited from fast response times and minimal hassle, receiving quick help with assistance or version upgrades. The excellent support was a decisive factor.
- **Consolidated Platform:** The ability to consolidate their security solutions and replace other vendors provided a comprehensive view, simplifying management.
- **Enhanced User-Friendliness:** The solution proved easy to get started with and smooth to use, requiring no major learning curve for users and being available in Swedish and English.



## CONCLUSION

After extensive online research, vendor recommendations, and a successful pilot program, Curt Nicolin Gymnasiet selected Heimdal as their cybersecurity partner. The comprehensive demonstrations and robust support provided during setup proved decisive. Recognizing the platform's capabilities and its perfect alignment with their needs, the school now strongly recommends Heimdal to its industry peers.

*"Heimdal's user-friendliness, platform consolidation, and reliable support are genuinely strong arguments for choosing them. The reassurance of having Nordic regional support, truly tailored to our needs, is deeply appreciated."*

**Mikael Mårdh,**  
IT Coordinator



## WHY HEIMDAL FOR EDUCATION

Educational institutions, particularly those with advanced vocational or technical programs, navigate unique challenges in balancing open access for learning with robust cybersecurity. Heimdal delivers a unified platform designed for operational resilience, regulatory readiness, and stretched IT teams.

- **Purpose-Built Protection:** Heimdal defends against phishing, ransomware, and endpoint threats, safeguarding student data and system integrity.
  - **Supports Regulatory Frameworks:** Supports compliance (e.g., GDPR, DfE, Cyber Essentials, ISO 27001) with automated tools for data privacy and institutional adherence.
  - **Operational Continuity:** Ensures operational continuity with real-time threat prevention and secure remote access for vital services.
  - **Unified Platform, Lower Workload:** Unified platform reduces tool sprawl, empowering lean IT teams with faster response and effective management.
  - **Scalable & Budget-Conscious:** Scalable and budget-conscious, providing maximum protection without complexity, fitting constrained educational budgets.
  - **Outstanding Product Quality and Support:** Delivers outstanding product quality and support, meeting sector expectations for reliable assistance and uninterrupted educational services.
  - **Continuous Development:** Committed to continuous development, always advancing security against emerging threats in educational technologies.
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