

ASEAN PROTECTS THEIR INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION WITH BITDEFENDER

OVERVIEW

The ASEAN Foundation serves the common interests of all ASEAN countries and comprises of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. One of the Foundation's activities is to increase the capabilities of small and medium businesses (SMB's) by raising awareness about information and communications technology, as well as helping organizations learn new skills and strategies for business development. Many of the projects implemented by the ASEAN Foundation engage other Asia-Pacific countries covering topics such as training workshops, scholarship grants, regional forums, interaction activities and exchanges, seminars, conferences and networking.

Ade Cahyadi heads the Finance and Administration of the ASEAN Foundation with the responsibility to ensure that the Foundation possess the correct infrastructure for efficient administration, as well as providing instruction or training workshops

for those visiting the ASEAN Foundation. In addition their local and mobile training facilities, Cahyadi must ensure the organization's critical administrative and financial data are well protected.

THE CHALLENGE

The ASEAN Foundation's IT Systems Engineer Niko Atmadja keeps the organization running by managing the organizations endpoints and critical servers. He explains "We have a server room with seven servers running critical services, including the perimeter Firewall, DNS, Web Servers, Mail Server, File Server and Backup Server on Windows SBS 2003 Server, and some Solaris or Linux platforms as well. We also have a financial system with a centralized database and the data stored there is crucial to our business."

Beside the critical servers, the ASEAN Foundation has about 20 PCs for the administrative personnel and a computer lab with 40 laptops dedicated for local and remote training. As different students have access to the training laptops every few days, maintaining the security has been a special challenge and difficult to enforce. With a high student turnaround, any malware infection would propagate quickly from one student to another, potentially infecting member countries and the local organizations in which they work.

"We needed a security solution that could protect the users from viruses and spyware and also to protect our administrative databases. We decided to install a security solution as it saves our IT department a considerable amount of time when cleaning a user's PC infected with a virus." said Atmadja. He continues, "I believe it is important - especially in our training room - since many different people are using USB storage devices to transfer files as infections have been a big problem for us in the past."



ASEAN FOUNDATION

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Foundation is an inter-governmental organization established by Heads of ASEAN member states in 1997. It was founded to help bring about shared prosperity and a sustainable future for the people of all ASEAN countries by creating various activities in the area of social development, science and technology, environment, culture, and information.

The ASEAN Foundation is headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia and has an operational scope encompassing nations within Southeast Asia.





THE SOLUTION

ASEAN Foundation found out about BitDefender from their local BitDefender Partner and tried the BitDefender Antivirus product as an alternative for another vendor's stand-alone antivirus product. Ade Cahyadi, the Head of Finance and Administration explained the reasons why they chose BitDefender, "The price is reasonable for the quality it offers and the overall detection rates of spyware, malware and viruses are significantly higher than its competitors. Scanning speed is important for us and we were happy with BitDefender's performance."

BitDefender's Security Suite includes both Client and File Server protection and this was a good fit for their needs. The suite provided centralized management of the servers and endpoint security with dedicated security policies for each of the groups within the Foundation. BitDefender's Client Security solution protects both the staff systems and the training systems used in the computer lab, while all the critical data in the network is protected by BitDefender Security for File Server's solution.

THE RESULT

"Now the financial software with its centralized database is protected by BitDefender's Security for File Servers. The data is very crucial to our operation and I believe BitDefender's solution will benefit the organization very much." said Atmadja.

According to Atmadja, the features most important to his productivity and network security are the antivirus, antispyware and antirootkit protection – which utilize multithread scanning to significantly reduce the time needed for system scans. The Centralized Management console also eases his administrative burden and effort; but his favorite feature is that of the automatic USB memory stick scanning – helping to minimize the propagation of viruses between students in the training facilities.

THE CONCLUSION

The ASEAN Foundation had recently experienced significant growth that highlighted the limitations of using a competitive vendor's consumer product. Due to the lack of manageability found in consumer based solutions and the need to scale further in the future, the ASEAN Foundation decided to invest in an integrated Business Suite from BitDefender.

Atmadja summarized his experiences after working with BitDefender, "I would give a five star to BitDefender. Since the moment of installation, the workload of the IT Administrator to repair an infected system reduced significantly. The intuitive interface also makes it easy to use for new students and staff members alike." He added, "From the time that we deployed the BitDefender solution, viruses have become a thing of the past. Therefore, we have recommended BitDefender as a security solution to other ASEAN institutions and will continue to do so."

ABOUT BITDEFENDER

BitDefender is the creator of one of the industry's fastest and most effective lines of internationally certified security software. Since inception in 2001, BitDefender has continued to raise the bar and set new standards in proactive threat prevention. Every day, BitDefender protects tens of millions of home and corporate users across the globe - giving them the peace of mind of knowing that their digital experiences will be secure. BitDefender solutions are distributed by a global network of value-added distribution and reseller partners in more than 100 countries worldwide.

More information is available at www.bitdefender.com

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