

BITDEFENDER SCORES WITH BLACKBURN ROVERS COMMUNITY TRUST

THE CHALLENGE

Blackburn Rovers Community Trust IT resources include a network of 170 client PCs and five network servers, one of which is an Exchange 2003 mail server. Chris Dawes is the person responsible in the organization for maintenance and availability of these services. One of his main concerns recently has been the increasing risk of malicious hacking attempts that are known to target corporate networks.

“Although an anti-virus solution was installed as part of the initial deployment and has been in place for a number of years, we were never really confident that it was fulfilling the purpose originally intended. Therefore we set out to find the best course of action to improve the system,” explains Dawes.



Blackburn Rovers Community Trust is a regional centre of excellence providing learning in a non-traditional setting, using its association with soccer as a route to other knowledge, skills and understanding.

From dedicated facilities at the Blackburn Rovers’ stadium, the trust’s complement of qualified teachers and assistants, supply a range of curriculum focused projects, serving over 500 schools and colleges throughout the North West of England.



THE SOLUTION

Following the decision to make a change, Dawes consulted his local IT supplier and carried out some additional research himself to identify a solution using trade publications and comparative reviews published on the Internet. “BitDefender was shortlisted and subsequently selected to provide a replacement security suite,” Dawes continued “A key deciding factor was the additional tools available for network management, enabling us to assign WMI-based Endpoint Audit and Management scripts to systems and groups that will run specific tasks”. This offered Dawes a far greater potential for streamlining his IT operations in the future – and in his opinion “was really more than just a virus solution.”

To Chris Dawes, an important advantage over their previous solution was the introduction of a management console providing complete control over the network and every client. BitDefender increased the speed in which tasks could be mastered without the steep learning curve associated with other products. “The procedures are Wizard driven making it very easy to use. You don’t have to be highly technical skilled to administer the network” he commented.

Dawes also found the additional desktop and server management features extremely useful in his day-to-day running the network, saving him a time during the day by automating remote endpoint configuration changes and simplifying the collection of audit information. “I can run the inventory of a machine, enable or disable remote access, obtain reports on running processes, and restart or shutdown selected processes. I can also run or uninstall software remotely by using BitDefender,” stated Dawes.



THE RESULT

Blackburn Rovers Community Trust appears confident in the solution they chose to deploy. “As well as being easier to use, the BitDefender Security Suite is certainly fulfilling its purpose. We found a number of Trojan and hijacker viruses while conducting an initial scan of the network before installing the software. While this had not led to a disruption of the service, their presence could have a cumulative effect in slowing the network performance.”

While the benefit of high detection and prevention rates of malware are a major plus in BitDefender's solution, integration and coexistence with other business critical systems helps to simplify the deployment process and leverage the business framework already embedded within the network. “Another feature distinguishing BitDefender is the smooth integration with the Active Directory. This manages our users, groups and computer names, so when I have an overview of the network in BitDefender, it is a complete mirror of my Active Directory so I have complete visibility over all my areas of responsibility.”

THE CONCLUSION

Chris Dawes concludes by saying: “We heard about BitDefender initially as it was providing the spam agent for the Trust's e-mail management service. This was generating a large number of updates, so we could see that BitDefender is on top of the game as far as that was concerned.”

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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