

BITDEFENDER PROTECTS FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION

As a leader in the fast paced business of footwear production and design, Cofra cannot afford any black-out periods caused by malware infections or other security issues. Their network comprises of 150 workstations spread across two different production sites with email servers, web servers and file servers managed by the IT department at headquarters. The IT department is responsible for maintaining the high volume production environment and ensuring uninterrupted communication services with partners, distributors and suppliers.

THE CHALLENGE

Selecting an optimal security solution was critical for Cofra's IT strategy as it was required to help automate IT management tasks, improve productivity, and protect data critical to the business.

Cofra's System Manager Nicola Ventura explained "Besides managing the internal production servers, we are also responsible for managing the internet facing email and web servers. We need to maintain high levels of security on these systems as any interruptions on our web servers would stop us receiving and processing the orders."

The first opportunity to replace their existing security vendor came when the email and network file servers were scheduled for replacement. It was also an opportunity to solve their problems with spam. However, the new vendor also had to meet the low-specification system requirements for some computers at their production facilities.

A local distributor did their best to find the right security solution to meet all the Cofra's requirements and two other vendors were also considered before they made their final decision. "BitDefender was our first choice due to its technical capabilities for remote management using the centralized management console and the functionality provided by the powerful endpoint management and auditing scripts; overall we liked the strong security features and it came at a good price," said Ventura. Ventura continues, "Another aspect that we liked was the ability to manage all workstations and file servers, establish a schedule for signature updates and limit or control the software installed on each workstation."

THE SOLUTION

BitDefender SBS Security Suite was the optimal choice to protect Cofra's new Windows centric business IT infrastructure. The network was growing fast in order to keep pace with the business, so the BitDefender Business Client was deployed to more than 140 PCs, including 50 PCs at their remote production location. "One of the selection criteria for the security solution was the ability to easily add new workstations into the existing network and automatically deploy the client protection - and BitDefender met this criteria," said Ventura.



Headquartered in Barletta Italy, Cofra is a leader in the specialized footwear sector selling 15,000 pairs of shoes a day.

Employing over 1,000 people at their state-of-the-art production facilities located in Italy and Albania, Cofra rely on high tech to develop footwear focused around comfort, design and style.



BitDefender also provided an integrated Antivirus and Antispam solution with leading technology and high detection rates to protect Cofra's new email infrastructure built around Microsoft Exchange Server. The deployment project went smoothly until they needed help configuring the settings of the oldest computers in the network running Windows 98, prompting Ventura to test the responsiveness of BitDefender's support services. He commented "We called BitDefender's support directly and spoke to a representative. It was important to us to have our questions dealt with in our local language and they quickly resolved all the issues we had. It's nice to know that we have that level of support if needed."



THE RESULT

Cofra has been using BitDefender for some years now, meeting the security needs of the network and keeping pace with the growth of the business. The centralized management and policy enforcement has been one feature that allowed Ventura to exert greater control over both desktops and users. Ventura comments "The ability to configure security policies with just a few clicks and deploy them automatically to groups of workstations translates into an improved speed of response for security issues that can drastically affect our network".

Unwanted Spam used to be one of the main issues at Cofra, but that is now a thing of the past. Spam is now blocked from user's mailboxes and all inbound and outbound mail attachments are scanned for malware to avoid propagating infected documents among partners, distributors and suppliers. As an additional layer of protection, all documents stored within the organization are scanned at the file server level to keep the internal network clear of malware and to minimize the risk of an outbreak.

THE CONCLUSION

Cofra has recently reconfirmed their commitment to BitDefender and its ability to deliver a strong security solution with industry leading features. Ventura continues "We decided to renew our BitDefender subscription once again because of the quality of the product. We have been using BitDefender for three years now and this means that it was the right choice for our company."

Deployed on workstations, servers and email systems throughout the network, BitDefender provides Cofra with a multi-layered security solution to protect the data critical to his business. Ventura concludes "I can say that my experience with the BitDefender overall has been very positive and the support services have been outstanding - they know how to keep their customers happy."

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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