92%

The goal: optimise email and Internet gateways to meet users' expectations and increase time savings.

CISCO™

of spam caught on entering the system. Ease-of-use.

le cnam

Meet our customer...

The Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (Cnam) is the leading provider of higher adult education and life-long training in France and Europe. In 2009–2010, the Cnam had almost 100,000 students registered for programs at its 28 centers in France and abroad. The Cnam's primary assets are the quality of its teaching, the expertise underpinning its training programs, and the strength and depth of a wide-reaching network. To this is added the talent of the entire Cnam community, ranging from renowned lecturers and researchers drawn from both the academic and business worlds, to engineers and technicians, administrators, and human resources staff.

Solutions installed

- Two Web Security Appliances (WSAs)
- Two E-mail Security Appliances (ESAs)

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▬ What factors set in motion your ESA project?
Denis Corée, CIO, Cnam

In late 2007, there were growing complaints from users that they were receiving too many spam emails. At the time, our security solution was based around free software that required considerable time investment on our behalf without actually solving the problem. It was while attending the European Security and Information System Congress that I discovered the Cisco IronPort ESA tool. We quickly organised some tests that proved conclusive.

▬ What did you find especially valuable about this solution?
Lilian Bézard,
Systems and Network Engineer, Cnam

This product is intelligently designed, and has a clear and intuitive interface. For us, the perfect solution should be powerful but also time-efficient and easy to use when dealing with problems. This is exactly what the Cisco IronPort ESA provides us. In addition, a purchase such as this is a long-term investment and, for us, the Cisco warranty offers peace of mind concerning the lifespan and future upgrades of the product. Finally, the related documentation was excellent, allowing us to quickly master the tool and explore its features.

▬ Which features do you find most useful?
Lilian Bézard,
Systems and Network Engineer, Cnam

Cisco's filtering is particularly effective: it blocks 92 percent of incoming emails at the connection level. ESA allows us to generate real-time logs, which make it easier to diagnose send/receive issues. Using this option, we are also able to archive our logs, which we are required to do for legal reasons.

The "clustering" mode centralizes administration via a single Internet interface and also makes the tool more reliable: we acquired two gateways for redundancy purposes, and we can be confident that they are both configured identically.

▬ What reasons led you to choose WSA as the solution for your Internet gateway?
Denis Corée, CIO, Cnam

We used to use a free solution that was starting to be overrun in terms of bandwidth usage and security. Our IT system was experiencing increasing numbers of virus attacks due to web browsing. Most commercial solutions were much too complex: we simply wanted to log websites visited and benefit from efficient antivirus and malware protection. The Cisco WSA met all our needs.

▬ What do you find particularly appealing about this solution?
Lilian Bézard,
Systems and Network Engineer, Cnam

The option enabling us to capture Internet flow and direct it automatically to the WSA gateways is a major benefit: users no longer have to configure proxies on their workstations and can now access the Internet immediately. Another bonus is the fact that sites are categorised automatically. Users are blocked from accessing sites that are banned by the teaching community. Finally, remote monitoring allows us to audit workstations and, especially, laptops in order to quickly find and clean up infected machines.

▬ To date, how would you rate your chosen solutions?
Denis Corée, CIO, Cnam

We are very happy with the Cisco solutions. They are full of pleasant surprises, particularly because of the regular updates that we receive. For example, we recently acquired the Web Tracking option for WSA, which allows us to generate and consult logs in real time. Users are no longer complaining about spam emails, the security of our 25,000 online workstations has been optimized and, most notably, we have considerably reduced the time spent managing our gateways; our interventions on them are now both rare and straightforward.

Meet our Partner...

anyssa solutions

Atelog 2i

Anyssa Solutions was set up in April 2000 by Alain Matonnier and a group of investors, becoming Atelog2i when it merged with an engineering company based in Angers. Positioned on the IT security market, the company intervenes at all stages of the creation of protection and security solutions for information systems. With the growth in digital communication and data transfer, risk evaluation and management has become a business necessity.

ATELOG 2i - ANYSSA SOLUTIONS
168, avenue Jean Jaurès
Website: www.anyssa-solutions.fr

Find all customer testimonials at:
www.cisco.fr/go/clients

Simplicity and Reliability

CISCO™

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le cnam

Adult education and life-long learning institution. Email and Internet security.

"We required powerful, innovative and adaptable security and administrative solutions for our email and Internet gateways. Cisco's ESA and WSA technologies fully meet both our needs and our users' needs in this respect."

Denis Corée
CIO, Cnam

The Problem

Unhappy users and a highly vulnerable system

In 2008, the CIO of the Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (Cnam) in France was faced with unhappy users, who were complaining about the amount of spam emails they were receiving. What's more, increasing numbers of workstations were being infected with viruses and malware. The solutions in place at the time relied on free software and were not up to the task, resulting in considerable time being spent on the problem. So the CIO turned to Cisco® ESA (Email Security Appliance) and WSA (Web Security Appliance) solutions, integrated with Borderless Network architecture.

The Solution

Reliable and quick tools that provide network security

From 2008, the CIO of the Cnam began testing various solutions and selected the Cisco IronPort™ ESA to optimise the email gateway and provide spam filtering that would meet user requirements. Convinced by its effectiveness, its intuitive interface, and its ease of use, the Cnam forged ahead a year later and acquired WSA to secure Internet browsing and protect its vulnerable IS from attacks.

The solutions were soon operational, and the Cnam was satisfied at their effectiveness.

The Benefits

Ease-of-use and improved user satisfaction

The aims have now been met, both for the users, for whom everything is transparent, and for the CIO, who is benefitting from a reliable and time-efficient solution. The CIO is particularly pleased with the integration of the two solutions in terms of usage, interfaces, and customisability. Thanks to their regular upgrades, these solutions now help ensure true email and Internet browsing security and allow the IT division to save time and focus on other projects