

Canada School District Protects Students with Trend Micro™ InterScan™ Web Security Virtual Appliance

Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud near Toronto must give students, teachers, and staff access to the worldwide web, and simultaneously protect students from Internet predators and inappropriate content. The IT team carefully chooses resource-efficient security solutions to meet these goals and to ensure district-wide productivity.

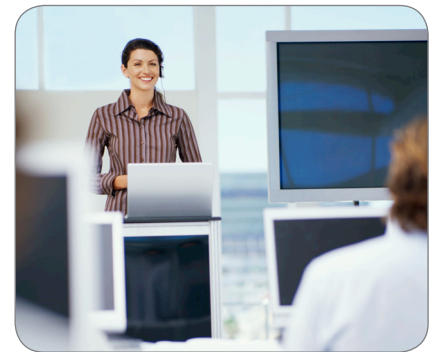
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— Réal Pilon,
Director of IT,
Conseil scolaire de district
catholique Centre-Sud,
North York, Ontario

AN EDUCATION-FRIENDLY SOLUTION

Like many other school districts, the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud must operate within a tight budget. One security expert oversees the day-to-day management of the solutions deployed on the district's network of 52 sites, and two others are available to help out when needed. Last year, the security team recognized the need for a more effective security solution. Spam was inconveniencing everyone on the network, and concern for the safety of the students increased the need for more comprehensive web threat protection. IT looked for a security vendor that could help them meet these requirements and also give them better management and control.



“We'd tried solutions from a couple of security vendors in the past, but we needed much more flexibility,” said Réal Pilon, director of IT for the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud. “Trend Micro is helping us take advantage of the latest security innovations. We gain a more secure and manageable infrastructure with the ability to monitor email messages and block access to sites that would put our students at risk.”

Today, the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud has deployed Trend Micro™ Enterprise Security and enjoys the combination of immediate protection for lower risk and less complexity for lower operating costs. Trend Micro products are powered by the Trend Micro Smart Protection Network, which correlates real-time threat information from email, web, and file reputation databases in the cloud, before they reach a customer's network. If one element gets flagged, all components of an attack are automatically blocked—spam sources, embedded links, dangerous files, and websites with malicious content.

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KEY BENEFITS

- **Delivers immediate protection.** In-the-cloud correlated reputation databases provide immediate access to global threat intelligence.
- **Simplifies management.** Centralized management, automated updates, and virtual appliance for web protection make it easier to install, configure, and maintain security solutions.
- **Reduces TCO.** Lower hardware costs (and indirect “greening” of IT), and simplified management provide long-term efficiencies in terms of capital and operating costs.

“Trend Micro’s in-the-cloud protection does a great job for us—without requiring us to continually update pattern files,” said Mr. Pilon. “We’ve seen many improvements, including a significant reduction in the amount of spam that hits user inboxes. Spam was becoming a major nuisance. Users were getting in excess of 20 spam messages a day, and as many as 100 for some staff and executives on the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud. Today, most users see only a few spam messages and are very, very satisfied. The IT staff is also very happy with the Trend Micro solution, since they spend less time adjusting spam filtering and because users can gain access to their own spam folders without help from IT.”

The products protecting the school district include:

- Trend Micro OfficeScan™ Client/Server Edition, for end-point protection (PCs and file servers)
- Trend Micro ScanMail™ for Microsoft™ Exchange, for messaging security
- Trend Micro InterScan™ Web Security Virtual Appliance at the gateway, for web threat protection

THE ABILITY TO MONITOR – AND CIRCUMVENT – THREATS

InterScan Web Security was of particular importance for the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud. In light of tragic events such as the Columbine attack, schools want the best possible tools for monitoring and controlling student behaviors. “We selected InterScan Web Security for its ability to monitor individual web access,” explained Mr. Pilon. “Our previous platform did not give us this ability, and now we can also block access to certain websites. By keeping our students out of chat rooms and dating sites, we can reduce risks from these threats as well.”

With built-in Web reputation, the InterScan Web Security Virtual Appliance optimizes web security by analyzing both the reputation of the information sources and the content that is being accessed over the network. Real-time HTTP and FTP traffic monitoring and filtering capabilities give IT the ability to set up automatic oversight of traffic, giving them the maximum protection while minimizing the time required by the IT staff.

“InterScan Web Security lets us lock down the web,” said Mr. Pilon. “We also have the flexibility to open up certain groups—for example, we can give HR more access to websites for recruiting. The controls allow us to determine who has access to what sites. Trend Micro is continually enhancing these capabilities and making it easier to implement more fine-grained policies and controls.”

CORPORATE PROFILE

Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud North York, Ontario, Canada

The Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud has a student population nearing 13,000 within its 41 elementary and 8 secondary schools. Its territory covers 40,000 km² extending from the Niagara Peninsula to Peterborough, and from Lake Ontario to the Georgian Bay.

- **Industry/Vertical** Education
- **Employees** 1100 (and 13,000 students)
- **Infrastructure** 3500 PCs (Dell and HP); 120 servers (Dell, Microsoft 2003); 52 sites

THE EASE OF A VIRTUAL APPLIANCE FORM FACTOR

IT chose to deploy a virtual appliance for web protection. “By offering the InterScan Web Security Virtual Appliance, Trend Micro gives us a solution that is easier to install, configure, and maintain,” said Mr. Pilon. “Keeping things simple is very important for our small team of security experts. The software virtual appliance also makes it easy for us to make changes in the future, and it supports our new virtualization initiative. This will be one of our major efforts in 2009.”

TREND MICRO SOLUTIONS

- **Smart Protection Network**
<http://www.trendmicro.com/go/Smart-ProtectionNetwork>
- **OfficeScan Client/Server Edition**
<http://us.trendmicro.com/us/products/enterprise/officescan-client-server-edition/index.html>
- **ScanMail for Microsoft Exchange**
<http://us.trendmicro.com/us/products/enterprise/scanmail-for-microsoft-exchange/index.html>
- **InterScan Web Security Virtual Appliance**
<http://us.trendmicro.com/us/products/enterprise/interscan-web-security-virtual-appliance/index.html>



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