

SONY UK CHOOSES TREND MICRO TO PROTECT ITS MESSAGING ENVIRONMENT AGAINST COMPUTER VIRUSES

Max Griffiths, Technical Consultant for Sony's Information Service Division (ISD), Sony UK explained why they made this choice...

In 1998 Sony UK Ltd., decided to implement a Microsoft Outlook and Exchange front end onto the CC mail system still in use throughout Sony Europe.

Managing the existing system was time consuming and complex, many of the antivirus solutions available were unable to block all incoming viruses.

To resolve these problems and to prevent potential loss of business due to virus infections, Sony UK Ltd implemented Trend Micro's ScanMail™ for Exchange antivirus product on their exchange servers. This reduced the number of virus infected emails received by the company to almost zero.

According to Max Griffiths, Sony UK was seeking " a suitable antivirus solution that would alert us to sudden virus attacks and warn the business of potential risk, provide a zero virus infection rate, and be easy to manage."

In the autumn of 2000, Sony UK Ltd implemented the UK arm of a Sony's global email system. All main parts of Sony now use Exchange for internal mail routing and in the UK this allowed a significantly faster email service to be provided. Max Griffiths said, "The greater connectivity this system presented could have increased exposure to threats from virus infection had the antivirus system not proved capable, but the upgrade to Trend Micro's ScanMail for Exchange to take advantage of the new AVAPI interfaces in Exchange 5.5 allowed Sony to keep this threat to the minimum."

When the number of email accounts to manage reached more that 1,000, Sony re-evaluated suitable antivirus solutions for their new Exchange messaging environment. It decided to continue to use Trend Micro's ScanMail for Exchange because it was found to:

- Scan all mails for viruses even under heavy loads
- Integrate well with Exchange and stop infected mails being sent to Exchange's Information Store
- Be easier to manage including automatic pattern file updates and scan engine downloads
- Offered centralised management capability

Looking towards the future antivirus needs of a business like Sony, Max Griffiths concluded, "There will always need to be increased awareness of antivirus issues. As more companies link together and do business over the internet there will be a stronger requirement for well managed antivirus protection."

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