

Florida School District Deploys Trend Micro Solutions to Simplify and Improve Security for Large-Scale Network

The IT team for the Orange County Public Schools district deploys and manages technology within an infrastructure that helps students achieve their full potential. To protect students from inappropriate content and guard systems and networks from attacks, the school district deploys leading-edge security solutions and services.

“Through all stages of our growth, Trend Micro solutions have served us very well, reliably adapting and scaling as we needed to provide a stable environment for students and staff.”

— Matthew Chapman, Assistant Director, Information Communications and Technology Services, Orange County Public Schools, Florida

KEY BENEFITS

- Security solutions that seamlessly integrate into the evolving network infrastructure
- Ease of administration with automatic updates and centralized monitoring
- Scalability to easily adapt to expanding user base, new systems, and additional sites
- Reliable, stable operation with protection from viruses, spyware, Web-based threats, and other malware

Coordinating Technology for the Campus and the Classroom

Orange County Public Schools (OCPS), headquartered in Orlando, Florida, ranks number 11 in size among public school districts in the United States. Technology has been a vital part of the curriculum delivered at the 170 elementary, junior high, and high school campuses that serve 176,990 students. Like many corporate environments, the district originally relied on a variety of security products that were independently installed and managed by users or individual school support teams. As the district has grown and threats have changed, the protection strategy for viruses, spam, and other malware has also evolved to a consistent, district-wide approach.



“Individual schools and offices do not typically have local security experts,” explained Matthew Chapman, assistant director within the central IT group at OCPS. “Maintaining effective and up-to-date protection from the prevalent network or system attacks has required that we choose layered solutions that simplify our support efforts while enabling the best possible security.”

High-Level Project Goals

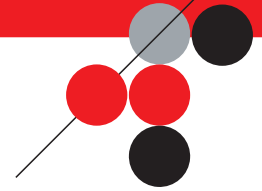
- Protect students from disruptions
- Deploy solutions that maximize the protection against viruses, spyware, spam, and other malware
- Eliminate vulnerabilities at gateways, desktops, and servers
- Enable centralized management and policy definition, with simplified support for local school staff

Why Trend Micro?

Trend Micro solutions have been in use within the OCPS infrastructure for almost a decade. “We run an all-Cisco network,” said Chapman. “Trend Micro has always given us security solutions that seamlessly integrate with our network and systems. We started with early versions of Trend Micro™ OfficeScan™ to protect our desktops, and we’ve stuck with Trend Micro ever since because the products help us meet our goals for simplifying enterprise-wide management and administration. The automatic pattern updates also help us avoid the vulnerabilities associated with out-of-date systems.”

As more and more servers were deployed, the district added Trend Micro ServerProtect™ to guard against attacks on file servers, and ScanMail™ Suite for Microsoft® Exchange to protect email servers and district-wide email traffic.

“Trend Micro has done a good job of adapting its product portfolio to the current threat landscape,” said Chapman. “New products come out when we need them, and strategic functionalities are merged to simplify management. For example, when OfficeScan Client/Server Edition was introduced, we were able to eliminate ServerProtect and support desktops and file servers with a single solution. Now it’s simpler and faster to check status on any system. These evolutions of the solution roadmap are vital for a deployment of our size and with our limited support resources.”



Protection for Email and Internet Gateways

Protecting its vital email infrastructure has been another security priority for OCPS. For years, Trend Micro ScanMail Suite for Exchange has blocked threats before they can enter or leave the email server. The latest release of the software gives the school district new protection against spyware and zero-day threats, in addition to viruses, spam, phishing, and unwanted content. Improved scan efficiency and tighter integration with the Microsoft platform lower the impact on the IT staff.

As an added layer of protection, OCPS deployed Trend Micro InterScan™ Messaging Security Suite at the network gateways. "Recently, we switched some of our Trend Micro gateway solutions to the new Trend Micro InterScan Messaging Security Appliance," stated Chapman. "The simple, drop-in appliance approach saves us time, and with such a small staff supporting so many systems, it gave us another level of flexibility for keeping up with network changes and expansion without adding a lot of work for the staff. All of these messaging and network solutions combine to give us comprehensive security."

Defending Against Web-Based Threats

Email-based viruses and malware used to be the primary type of threat seen on the district's infrastructure, but this has shifted recently. Chapman explained, "Today, when we monitor the threat activity, we see Trojans—many with bots that run in the background—showing up at the top of the lists. The delivery path is usually coming from the Web and not email. Thankfully, Trend Micro solutions have been continually enhanced and are catching these newest threats."

Effective, Large-Scale Solutions

OCPS investments in Trend Micro solutions have paid off through the years, providing a security foundation that has been able to scale with the district's infrastructure. For example, at one point in time a single server was supporting 48,000 client desktops. This far exceeded the recommended number of 18,000 clients per server for distributing Trend Micro updated patterns, but the server was never overloaded in terms of performance. "That server never experienced more than 20% CPU usage," said Chapman.

Today, the OCPS network is extensive enough to put the district among the ranks of the largest corporations. Chapman summarized, "Through all stages of our growth, Trend Micro solutions have served us very well, reliably adapting and scaling as we needed to provide a stable environment for students and staff. In terms of support, Trend Micro has also kept up with our needs. Today we rely on Premium Support to give us 24x7 access to a designated expert that knows our installation."

Customer Profile

Orange County Public Schools • Orlando, Florida • www.ocps.k12.us

The Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) district is the eleventh-largest district in the U.S., serving more than 176,000 students from 179 countries and speaking 137 languages and dialects. Every school has a School Advisory Council (SAC) made up of parents, students, educators and community members. SACs help develop and implement School Improvement Plans. OCPS district has had three consecutive years of record numbers of high school students scoring at college level on Advancement Placement (AP) exams.

Industry/Vertical: K-12 Education • **Annual Operating Budget (2006-2007):** \$1.445-billion •

Employees: 25,869 • **Infrastructure:** Six regional learning communities, 170 schools, approximately 50,000 desktop users, and 1100 to 1200 servers (mostly Microsoft Windows; some Linux)

TREND MICRO PRODUCTS

Trend Micro OfficeScan Client/Server Edition

<http://www.trendmicro.com/en/products/desktop/osce/evaluate/overview.htm>

Trend Micro ScanMail Suite for Microsoft Exchange

<http://www.trendmicro.com/en/products/email/smex/evaluate/overview.htm>

Trend Micro InterScan™ Messaging Security Suite

<http://www.trendmicro.com/en/products/gateway/ismss/evaluate/overview.htm>

Trend Micro, Inc.

Trend Micro Incorporated is a pioneer in secure content and threat management. Founded in 1988, Trend Micro provides individuals and organizations of all sizes with award-winning security software, hardware, and services. With headquarters in Tokyo and operations in more than 30 countries, Trend Micro solutions are sold through corporate and value-added resellers and service providers worldwide. For additional information and evaluation copies of Trend Micro products, visit our Web site at www.trendmicro.com.

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