



Appleton's School District, City and nearby Fox Valley Technical College choose Trend Micro over McAfee for Comprehensive Threat Protection

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— Jack Smrekar,
Network Administrator,
Appleton Area School District

Acting as a consortium, Appleton Area School District, the City of Appleton, and Fox Valley Technical College, reviewed major antivirus vendors against the incumbent, McAfee. Trend Micro won for its continuous and aggressive incorporation of protection from spyware and mixed-threat attacks.

Wisconsin-based Appleton Area School District, founded in 1850, has a solid history of preparing its students—currently in excess of 15,000—to meet the challenges that lie ahead. The School District's network connects 16 elementary schools, four middle schools, three high schools, four administrative locations, and three other facilities within a five-mile radius. The versatile IT infrastructure encompasses 85 servers and 4,000 workstations. During any typical school day, a PC might first be used by a student in the morning and then utilized by the principal in the afternoon.

Ever vigilant for the day-to-day challenges that can disrupt school district operations, Jack Smrekar, Appleton Area School District's network administrator, noted, "We decided to re-evaluate our threat protection strategy because we needed multiple layers of security to protect our environment from spyware and other Internet threats, while still enabling easy user access."

KEY BENEFITS

- **Powerful multi-layered protection reduces overall threat exposure.**
- **Central Web-based console makes administration easy and efficient.**
- **Proactive, early warnings ensure protection against the latest threats.**
- **Efficiency and automation reduces total cost of ownership.**

Trend Micro: The Consensus Choice

Appleton Area School District was keen to lend its weight and combine buying power with both the City of Appleton and Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton—which each have several hundred PCs and over a dozen servers. Recently, the three municipal groups jointly evaluated solutions from leading vendors of spyware, virus and spam protection against those of incumbent McAfee.

"For about five years, the Appleton Area School District had been relying on a solution from McAfee that covered our clients, servers, email and Internet gateways. But the time had come to reassess its effectiveness in providing comprehensive protection against modern-day threats. And, acting as a consortium, representatives from the City, School District and Technical College performed a thorough review of the major security vendors to find the threat protection that best fitted our joint requirements and our combined budget," recollected Smrekar.



Mixed-Threat Protection from Trend Micro

"Trend Micro stood out: We particularly like the way it continuously and aggressively incorporates the latest levels of protection against spyware and mixed-threat attacks into its current solutions. When matched against its competitors, Trend Micro offered us the best protection at the best price," Smrekar recalled.

In July 2005, all three of the Appleton organizations installed Trend Micro NeatSuite comprising: OfficeScan™ Client/Server Edition to protect and clean servers and desktops, ScanMail™ for Microsoft™ Exchange to guard email servers, as well as InterScan™ Messaging Security Suite and InterScan™ Web Security Suite for gateway protection.

Smrekar noted, "We like the intuitive way in which all of the NeatSuite components are centrally managed by Trend Micro Control Manager™—making administration of our virus protection solution very efficient. With the Web-based management console it is easy to view how our networks are being protected from multiple threats, and it's very straightforward to set up coordinated security policies and deploy automatic updates on each client and server."

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The consortium also implemented Trend Micro™ Damage Cleanup Services to remove spyware, worms, virus remnants, Trojans, and unwanted memory registries on clients and servers. These services also are designed to repair system registries and erroneous memory entries, decreasing the administrative labor, recovery time, and cost associated with dealing with an outbreak. Smrekar commented, "Our Trend Micro solution has been so successful that we haven't yet had to use the Damage Cleanup Services yet. But it strengthens our contingency planning strategy, and it's nice to know we have it there just in case."

Effective, Efficient, Powerful, Multi-Layered Defense

"NeatSuite is doing a good job: We haven't had any problems with malware since it was deployed," Smrekar stated. "The Trend Micro solutions are intuitive to operate and highly automated. We have them configured so that every three hours the software automatically updates the pattern files, keeping us constantly synchronized with the latest levels of protection."

He continued, "Overall, with the high level of efficiency and automation afforded by NeatSuite, we can spend more of our time on other priority items, which further lowers the total cost of ownership of this comprehensive solution."

Smrekar concluded, "Trend Micro stood with us through our migration from McAfee and has proven to be a valuable partner and trustworthy advisor every step of the way. We know that our infrastructures are very effectively protected from viruses and other malicious threats: We are delighted with our powerful, multi-layered defenses from Trend Micro."

TREND MICRO PRODUCTS

- Trend Micro™ NeatSuite™
- OfficeScan™ Client/Server Edition
- ScanMail™ for Microsoft™ Exchange
- InterScan™ Messaging Security Suite
- InterScan™ Web Security Suite
- Trend Micro Control Manager™
- Trend Micro™ Damage Cleanup Services

Trend Micro, Inc.

Trend Micro, Inc. is a global leader in network antivirus and Internet content security software and services, focused on helping customers prevent and minimize the impact of network viruses and mixed-threat attacks through its award-winning Trend Micro™ Enterprise Protection Strategy. Trend Micro has worldwide operations and trades stock on the Tokyo Stock Exchange and NASDAQ.

Trend Micro products are backed by timely, high-quality service from TrendLabs™, a global network of antivirus research and support centers.

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