Case Study
India Today Group

PROFILE:

COUNTRY: India
INDUSTRY: Media & Entertainment

KEY REQUIREMENTS:

- A web security solution that is easy to deploy and manage, with no intervention needed on each client device
- Flexible controls that let IT managers set very granular policies for different types of employees
- The ability to decode, inspect, and filter SSL-encrypted web traffic at very high speeds

MAIN BENEFITS:

- Unrivaled protection from malware, botnets, phishing scams, and other online threats—regardless of what device employees are using
- Enhanced productivity among employees—and greater visibility into network use
- Highly responsive technical support with same-day resolution

High-Performance Web Security Made Simple

OBJECTIVE

India Today Group, a media conglomerate based in Noida, India, needed a way to protect its network from malware and enforce company web policies with minimal configuration changes at client machines, using a simple and intuitive dashboard and a preemptive and easy to use admin console.

SOLUTION

After comparing various solutions, India Today Group found the ideal solution to its challenge in ContentKeeper's Secure Internet Gateway. The system protects against malware and other web-based threats, while providing real-time monitoring and reporting of Internet activity. It's simple to use and manage, with no changes or configuration required on client devices, and it decrypts SSL web traffic with no delays—resulting in reliable, seamless, and secure web access.

Background

India Today Group publishes and operates magazines, newspapers, books, radio and TV stations, and printing and Internet services. The company has offices across India.

Having reliable, high-speed Internet access "is the backbone of our business," said Senior Manager Altaf Khan. "We cannot imagine our business without it, where broadcasting or publishing a story is of utmost importance."

To prevent malicious software from crippling its network, India Today Group did not want to invest in a proxy-based web security product that requires intervention on end-users' devices. India Today Group tested ContentKeeper's Secure Internet Gateway over a two-month period based on all parameters listed in the RFP.

With a growing number of websites using SSL encryption, and an increasing number of malware attacks spoofing these sites, the ability to quickly decrypt a session request, inspect the full URL string, and compare it to a list of known malware threats without disrupting a user's web access was of paramount importance.

"We were looking for a solution that could reduce these operational challenges and give us high performance," Khan said.

Why Choose ContentKeeper?

Aiming to solve these challenges, India Today Group's Senior General Manager, Arvind Munshi, decided to try ContentKeeper's Secure Internet Gateway solution.

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>
> —Altaf Khan
> Senior Manager

ContentKeeper's Secure Internet Gateway gives organizations an easy way to centrally manage web access and secure their networks from the latest online threats. It's an in-line solution that provides advanced malware defense, accurate device identification and reporting, and a versatile set of browsing and usage controls—regardless of whether employees access the network from a personal or company-issued device.

ContentKeeper's Layer 2 Ethernet bridge design "made deployment very easy—just plug and play," Khan said. "We were able to deploy it on our network within minutes, without interfering with the configurations of our network or end-users' devices."

He continued: "Now, all of our web traffic passes through ContentKeeper, and we are able to control our mobile and Wi-Fi devices, too. We have unified polices for our employees whether they access the Internet from a laptop, desktop, or smart phone."

Easy to Use and Manage

Since India Today Group switched to ContentKeeper, the operational challenges it was experiencing before have disappeared. For instance, the company no longer has to bypass certain applications or change the settings on users' devices. "Because we do not have to make any changes at the user end, the number of support calls from users has gone down dramatically," Khan said.

IT staff also like that ContentKeeper's interface is very user-friendly. "Even a person who is working on it for the first time can manage it," he noted.

ContentKeeper can be managed easily from a central console. Authorized IT administrators can create any number of user groups and can define web access policies for each of these groups. ContentKeeper continually tracks web usage for each device; network administrators can see, at a glance, what devices are being used on the network, by whom, and for what purposes—and they can run detailed reports.

Lightning-Fast SSL Decryption

The best part about ContentKeeper, Khan said, is its superior performance in handling SSL traffic.

ContentKeeper's TurboBridge technology supports SSL decryption, inspection, and filtering at multi-gigabit speeds, with no network latency. It enables very precise control over individual sections or pages within YouTube and social media websites, letting administrators block some of the content on a site while granting access to other content.

"With ContentKeeper, we can have more granular web-use policies—without sacrificing performance," Khan said. "That improves our users' experience."

RESULT

ContentKeeper has enhanced the Internet experience for India Today Group's employees, while keeping IT systems safe from online threats. The solution has been easy to deploy, use, and manage, and it has resulted in faster, more reliable web service.

"ContentKeeper's team has been very proactive," Khan concluded. "They are easily approachable and available whenever required. We would gladly recommend ContentKeeper to others."