

Frontier School Division banishes malware

Remote school district uses Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Business to eliminate malware without flying staff to each location

INDUSTRY

Education

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Enable stronger malware protection with remote manageability

IT ENVIRONMENT

A network of several thousand Windows PCs and Kaspersky antivirus

SOLUTION

4,000 seats of Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Business, which includes the Management Console

RESULTS

- Greatly reduced Potentially Unwanted Programs (PUPs) and infections
- Simplified deployment with no conflicts
- Gained stronger protection and remote accessibility to end user machines

Business profile

Frontier School Division includes more than 40 schools across northern Manitoba in Canada. The geographical area served by Frontier School Division is the largest of any in Canada, and many of the communities are accessible only by boat, floatplane, snowmobile, rail, or winter ice roads. Several thousand Windows PCs across the province are connected over a single network.

The amount of infections has been significantly reduced on our user machines since we installed Malwarebytes. We've also greatly reduced the installation of potentially unwanted programs.

—Andrew Single, Divisional Network Administrator, Frontier School Division

Business challenge

Prevent malware from overpowering users

Administering a computer network distributed over thousands of square miles in rugged rural Canada—some locations only accessible by floatplane—poses its own unique challenges. Not the least of which is remedying the growing incidence of malware infections. In 2013, an administrative assistant reported an increasing amount of malware showing up on machines used by the secretaries.

“Malware was getting by our perimeter scanning and the Kaspersky product we have in place,” said Andrew Single, Divisional Network Administrator for the Frontier School Division. “It’s tough to travel three hours one way just to re-image and reconfigure a machine, yet our administrative machines run a lot of custom software for student management. So malware was a growing problem.”



The solution

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Business

Single needed to add another endpoint security product to detect and remove what Kaspersky missed. He already knew and used Malwarebytes Anti-Malware at home. It had a great reputation and was part of his toolkit.

“I knew Malwarebytes would catch the malware escaping our current solution,” said Single. “And I knew that Malwarebytes played well with other security products, so there were no concerns about compatibility issues with Kaspersky or with Microsoft Forefront System Center Endpoint Protection, which was replacing the Kaspersky product.”

Minimal maintenance was also essential, due to the distances and travel difficulty in getting to the schools. Malwarebytes products clearly met that requirement.

At this time, Single contacted DSolution, a Malwarebytes Canadian reseller. Working together with Ron Stewart of DSolution, Andrew reviewed the Malwarebytes product line to find the right fit—4,000 seats of Malwarebytes Anti-Malware for Business.

Simple installation

Installation was clean, with none of the deployment and configuration issues that are commonly associated with adding another endpoint security program. There were no conflicts with Kaspersky or Microsoft Forefront System Center Endpoint Protection, and the Malwarebytes Management Console is simple and to the point.

Eliminating infections

“The number of infections has been significantly reduced since we installed Malwarebytes,” said Single. “We’ve also greatly reduced the installation of Potentially Unwanted Programs (PUPs). I hated logging in remotely to a machine and seeing twelve toolbars fill the screen. I don’t see that anymore.”

| About

Malwarebytes provides anti-malware and anti-exploit software designed to protect businesses and consumers against zero-day threats that consistently escape detection by traditional anti-virus solutions. Malwarebytes Anti-Malware earned an “Outstanding” rating by CNET editors, is a PCMag.com Editor’s Choice, and was the only security software to earn a perfect malware remediation score from AV-TEST.org. That’s why more than 38,000 SMBs and Enterprise businesses worldwide trust Malwarebytes to protect their data. Founded in 2008, Malwarebytes is headquartered in California, operates offices in Europe, and employs a global team of researchers and experts.



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