



Cawthron Selected MailMarshal SMTP and WebMarshal for Speed and Security

Client:

Cawthron Institute

Web Site:

www.cawthron.org.nz

Number of Users:

145

Requirements:

Email and Internet Filtering

Filtering Solutions:

MailMarshal and WebMarshal

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Rob Bell

Systems Administrator
Cawthron Institute

Background

Cawthron is New Zealand's largest, private, independent research organization. It provides research-based solutions to enable the sustainable management and development of the country's coastal and freshwater systems and resources for the benefit of the region and the nation.

Cawthron currently operates from three locations in New Zealand: Nelson, Blenheim and Cawthron's Aquaculture Research Park located just outside of Nelson. The majority of its 145 full-time and 35 part-time employees are dependent on the availability and security of the company's email resources to communicate with the local and international scientific communities and each other. Its scientists rely on Internet and email availability to access and share scientific data quickly and easily.

Over the past seven years, Cawthron's fulltime staff numbers increased from 90 to 145. In turn, the organization's email and Internet requirements also changed. Cawthron required more advanced email and Internet content security solutions to control rising spam volumes and to protect itself from increasingly malicious email and web-borne threats.

The Challenge

Cawthron staff increases led to the company's bandwidth consumption swelling to 50GB a month. Increased staff use of email and the Internet meant the organization was more exposed to email and web-borne threats, such as spam, phishing, spyware, viruses and DoS (Denial of Service) attacks. The threats themselves had also evolved and posed far greater security risks to organization.

Cawthron's IT staff were investing one to two hours a day managing ever-increasing spam and spyware issues. According to Cawthron's Systems Administrator, Rob Bell, around 60 percent of the 2,000 emails the company received daily were spam.

“Removing spam is the bane of my job,” said Rob Bell. “Just keeping on top of it was a job in itself. Managing the spam epidemic was costing the organization thousands of dollars in lost productivity and bandwidth.”

Spyware was also an issue for Cawthron. Its previous anti-spyware desktop solutions could successfully identify spyware, but couldn't always remove it automatically. Bell would have to manually check that all identified spyware had been successfully removed and would often have to remove it himself.

Escalating bandwidth consumption was also proving costly and risky to the organization. According to Bell, Cawthron's unrestricted Internet use policy had the potential to cause harm to the company.

“Our employees are welcome to use the Internet and email for personal use. But some Internet activity, such as streaming audio from radio sites, was causing a big drain on our bandwidth capacity,” says Bell.

“I am no longer spending a couple of hours a day dealing with spam-related enquires and manually updating URL lists in order to control it. Now I can focus on more important tasks.”

Rob Bell
Systems Administrator
Cawthron Institute

“We needed a solution that would automatically block access to websites containing offensive or malicious content and allow us to enforce our Acceptable Use Policy more effectively, without significantly compromising the user’s Internet experience.”

In April 2007, Cawthron deployed MailMarshal SMTP and WebMarshal solutions.

Speed and Security

Cawthron selected MailMarshal SMTP and WebMarshal because of their highly granular content filtering capabilities, advanced control features such as spam categorization, antivirus and anti-spyware scanning technology and automated updated URL filter lists.

Since the introduction of MailMarshal SMTP, Cawthron’s spam capture rate at the gateway has increased by more than 20 percent. It is now identifying and blocking 99 percent of spam at the gateway. This has resulted in a dramatic drop in bandwidth consumption, from 50GB a month to 40GB.

“Instead of receiving daily user complaints about spam volumes and false positives, staff are saying ‘I had my first bit of spam today in weeks’. I am no longer spending a couple of hours a day dealing with spam-related enquires and manually updating URL lists in order to control it. Now I can focus on more important tasks,” says Bell.

WebMarshal’s third-party anti-spyware support also saves Cawthron’s IT team considerable time and delivers an extra level of security to its network. WebMarshal integrates with the anti-spyware solution to ensure spyware is identified and removed at the gateway rather than the desktop.

“We believe in layered security. We use anti-virus, firewall and spyware products on the desktops. The integrated anti-virus and anti-spyware capabilities Marshal8e6’s software offers gives us an extra layer of defense at the gateway,” says Bell.

Advanced Automation and Control

The new Marshal8e6 Filtering List that integrates with WebMarshal has also delivered significant time savings to Cawthron’s IT team. When a new Web threat or website containing malicious content is detected, Marshal8e6’s URL Filtering List is updated to Cawthron’s servers automatically. This not only reduces administration, but delivers market-leading rapid response security.

“One of the most impressive features is the automated URL filter list. It is now totally automated, saving me about a day a month. The Marshal8e6 Filtering List is the largest and most comprehensive on the market and includes URLs that I would never have found,” says Bell.

Using WebMarshal, now automatically enforces its Acceptable Use Policy related to web access and Internet usage, while securing and protecting the organization against viruses, spyware and other forms of malicious code.

In addition, Cawthron also manages the uploading and downloading of websites, including WebMail. The technology’s reporting functionality also enables Cawthron to monitor and control the uploading of content to web-based sites, including external blogs, social networking forums and industry chat rooms.

“We now have the tools that let us form and enforce effective policies around Internet usage to protect users and the company,” says Bell.

About Marshal8e6

Marshal8e6 is a global provider of Secure Internet Gateway products for organizations of all sizes. Marshal8e6 is the only security company capable of delivering comprehensive content security across multiple delivery platforms, including software, appliances and Software-as-a-service (SaaS). The company's complete security portfolio delivers the tools necessary to manage and secure email, Web and the endpoint as well as protect against data leakage. Today, more than 16 million end users in more than 20,000 companies in 96 countries rely on Marshal8e6 solutions to protect their businesses at the email and Web gateway.



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