



Stony Brook Prescribes M86 Security as the Best Cure for Its Filtering and Reporting Needs

Client:

Stony Brook University Hospital

Web Site:

www.stonybrookmedicalcenter.org

Number of Users:

8,000

Requirements:

Web Filtering and Reporting

Filtering Solutions:

M86 Web Filter and Reporter

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Supervisor Senior
Network Engineer,
University Hospital at Stony Brook

Profile

Located in the State of New York, Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) dedicates more than half of its 503 beds to specialized cases and intensive care. The Hospital’s mission is to provide excellence in patient care, community service, education and research. Now in its 25th year, SBUH has maintained and improved its position as a nationally recognized leading provider in tertiary healthcare.

Challenge

Like many healthcare organizations, SBUH sought an effective tool to assist with the challenges imposed by HIPAA, which requires all patient health insurance data transmitted online be encrypted and secured. Fines of up to \$250,000 and 10 years in prison are given for the misuse of protected health information (PHI), and even accidental violations could tarnish a hospital’s image as a trusted provider.

In addition to the regulations set out in HIPAA, SBUH faced many of the same challenges companies and other organizations do. Like many corporations, they have to be on constant guard against unwanted incursions from the outside such as viruses and spyware, and they must also keep their own employees from doing damage from the inside. This includes using Web-based email and Instant Messaging to communicate with friends and other outsiders. Oftentimes illegal, bandwidth-depleting activities include trading music, downloading movies, and surfing the Internet on company time.

Solutions

SBUH reviewed and tested several different products before selecting a joint solution from M86 Security. Pete Gazsy, Supervising Senior Network Engineer, says, “We decided to implement M86’s product because for a reasonable cost, we have been able to ensure appropriate use of Internet access and provide accurate and helpful reports in employee-related matters.” SBUH uses the M86 Web Filter and Reporter (M86 WFR) to manage employee access to inappropriate sites, preventing access to site categories such as pornography, spyware/phishing/malicious code, hate/discrimination and others.

The M86 WFR is a flexible, highly scalable network appliance that can be deployed to limit improper access to PHI and preserve its confidentiality, directly addressing the main provision of the HIPAA rules. It also comes with comprehensive tracking and reporting capabilities that can assist in demonstrating compliance — and in ensuring the trust of patients and partners alike. And thanks to simple setup and an open-source OS, the M86 WFR can be quickly and easily implemented as an integral part of a healthcare organization’s overall approach to meeting HIPAA guidelines.

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The features that attracted Mr. Gazsy the most? — “The hardware-based platform, M86’s unique method of passing the requests immediately for response time and then using a dedicated blocking interface.”

By typing in a user ID, an administrator can immediately retrieve the user history and drill down deep into specific details for a full picture of activity, thereby investigating a company’s Internet traffic down to the IP address. This is a big advantage over canned reports that look only at high-level data. And, armed with this kind of specific information, companies can locate the violator much more quickly, shaving valuable time off the investigative process — while offering even greater proof to regulators and partners alike that they are in compliance. Mr. Gazsy says, “The reporting has gotten better with each release and continues to be a valuable asset for our organization.”

Result

Since installing the M86 WFR, productivity is up among workers and any potential risks of inappropriate Internet use have been avoided. Mr. Gazsy is pleased with his choice of supplier, explaining, “The technology used in the M86 WFR is still unique and integrates with our network perfectly. The performance offered by this technology has held up well with 8,000 users and in an academic atmosphere. It is one of the best enterprise network/security products we have ever purchased.”

ABOUT M86 SECURITY

M86 Security is the global expert in real-time threat protection and the industry’s leading Secure Web Gateway provider. The company’s appliance, software, and Software as a Service (SaaS) solutions for Web and email security protect more than 24,000 customers and over 17 million users worldwide. M86 products use patented real-time code analysis and behavior-based malware detection technologies as well as threat intelligence from M86 Security Labs to protect networks against new and advance threats, secure confidential information, and ensure regulatory compliance. The company is based in Orange, California with international headquarters in London and development centers in California, Israel, and New Zealand.

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Version 04/06/10