:: Case Study

Education – Monadnock School District

ESET NOD32 Antivirus – Business Edition

Monadnock Chooses ESET to Extend Life (of Older Computers)

Neal Richardson is the network manager for Monadnock School District in New Hampshire. Monandock is comprised of seven schools, ranging from kindergarten through high school. In all, Neal is responsible for the networking and security of 1,200 computers among roughly 3,000 students. Until recently, his network was protected by Symantec. When the license expired, he decided to make a change.

Why the Switch?

"I needed to squeeze as much life out of our older hardware as I could. I also wanted something that I could afford, and I had started to believe that our antivirus solution wasn't right for us. Symantec had just come out with version 10 and it was causing all sorts of havoc with the Network Access Control. The updates were too bloated, the installation files too big. Like most schools, we have a mix of new and old machines. Our old antivirus was slowing down most of them."

Why ESET?

In 2007 Neal attended the SecureWorld conference, where he ran into NSG, a systems integrator and ESET partner. "We happened across NSG at the SecureWorld trade show. NSG gave us a 30-day trial copy of ESET NOD32® Antivirus Business Edition, which I piloted on about 20 of my slower machines. It ran great, and the performance on those 20 PCs increased dramatically. Bringing ESET on board in a larger capacity was an easy decision to make." It was also easier on his network, as even his oldest PCs could run the program without incident.

"It was also much more attractively priced, coming in one-third less than the competitive quote."

Even though ESET isn't as well-known as its predecessor, the immediate cost savings he was able to introduce helped Neal sell it up the chain of command.

Implementation

When it came time for implementation, Neal was equally impressed, due in large part to ESET's "Rip & Replace" service, which automatically and completely uninstalls legacy antivirus software across an entire network, before installing ESET. "Implementation was flawless, in terms of length of time and ease of deployment," said Neal. "With Rip & Replace, we installed an antivirus server, deployment and migration tools. In less than four hours, it uninstalled Symantec, rebooted all 1,200 PCs, and I didn't have to get out of my chair."

Quick Facts	
Company name:	Monadnock School District
Location:	Swanzey, New Hampshire, U.S.
Industry:	Education

What Changed with ESET?

Neal saw immediate results. "The first things I noticed were that applications were launching more quickly, and system resources weren't being maxed out. ESET NOD32 Antivirus also found malware that had been missed by the previous software, which was surprising. It probably detected four or five different viruses, as well as 15 or 20 of the trojans that were just residing there on my system, undetected. Signature updates are a lot different as well. I see them at least once a day. Before ESET, I saw them every three days or so. The size of the updates is also much smaller with ESET."

What would you tell a network administrator considering ESET?

"Just do it. It's been absolutely wonderful for us."

ESET @ work	
Customer Problem	**ESET Solution**
Old equipment couldn't run new AV software	Light footprint extended life of older PCs
Expensive options	Attractive price point
System resources maxed out	Applications launched more quickly
Manual installation of old AV software	Central deployment, thanks to Rip & Replace feature

"I needed to squeeze as much life out of our older hardware as I could. I also wanted something that I could afford."

— Neal Richardson

Corporate Headquarters

ESET, spol. s r.o.
Aupark Tower
16th Floor
Einsteinova 24
851 01 Bratislava
Slovak Republic
Tel. +421 (2) 59305311
www.eset.sk

Americas & Global Distribution

ESET, LLC
610 West Ash Street
Suite 1900
San Diego, CA 92101
U.S.A.
Toll Free: +1 (866) 343-3738
Tel. +1 (619) 876-5400
Fax. +1 (619) 876-5845
www.eset.com

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