

# Business Product Comparative

## ESET Smart Security vs. Symantec Endpoint Protection

(Source: "Fast and Effective Endpoint Security for Business"; Comparative Analysis by PassMark Software; June 2010)

### PassMark Grades ESET Smart Security "Fastest, Best Overall Performance"

#### Ratings and Summary

PassMark Software has given each security product a rating which reflects its overall performance, ease of use, design, features and level of excellence in that category. Categories represent major functions or feature sets common to the sphere of business security.

	ESET	Symantec
<b>Overall Rating</b>	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆☆
Installation & Configuration	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆1/2
Migration	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆☆1/2
Default Policies	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆☆1/2
Client Installation	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Interface Design	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆1/2
Client & Policy Management	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Remote Management	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆☆1/2
Updates	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Common Use Cases	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆1/2
Effectiveness	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Performance	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆☆

#### Performance

The following performance categories have been selected as 'real-life' metrics which may impact heavily on endpoint system performance and responsiveness. These benchmarks allow the comparison of the level of impact that business security software products may have on endpoint machines. Products with good performance will have less impact on business activities, workflow and productivity.

	ESET	Symantec	ESET Advantage
Install size (MB)	284	682	Requires 58% less disk space for installation
Memory usage commit charge (MB)	102.46	181.74	Uses 43% less system resources to perform tasks
Word document launch time (ms)	7,488	8,124	Launches Word documents 8% faster
Word document restart time (ms)	2,151	2,213	Restarts Word documents 3% faster
File copy time for small files (s)	25.35	36.17	Copies documents 30% faster
File copy time for large files (s)	83.70	85.83	Copies media files 2% faster
Client signature database size (MB)	28.62	127	77% smaller footprint on the local disk drive
Boot time (s)	27.72	36.01	Takes 23% less time to start your machine
Machine restart time (s)	78.20	81.60	Takes 4% less time to restart your machine
Daily network traffic (MB)	4.06	5.18	21% smaller impact on corporate network

## Features and Functions

Evaluation categories were determined prior to testing and were chosen as a set of expected features or functions which define business security products. Below is a list of ESET's advantages over Symantec's solution.

### ESET's Advantages:

- The Remote Administrator console is highly compatible with most variants and legacy versions of ESET security products, all of which can be managed simultaneously from a single platform
- Endpoints can be automatically sorted into extremely powerful parametric groups as they join the network
- Signature updates are transportable (feature advantageous for administrators managing machines on isolated networks)
- Fast and streamlined installation process
- Basic set up guide is extremely user focused
- Default policies provide a good balance for most deployments

### Symantec's Disadvantages:

- Time to complete installation, updates and basic configuration with Symantec takes twice as long as with ESET (2 hours vs. 1 hour)
- Symantec doesn't provide any support for migrating from third party products
- Manager Console user interface is somewhat sluggish with slow response times
- Some instability encountered during the deployment of the client to the endpoint machine, where the remote deployment application (ClientRemote.exe) quietly crashed without providing any feedback to the administrator via the Troubleshooter log
- As a minor issue, the task wizards, while helpful in streamlining migration, client deployment and backups, are not accessible from the Manager Console directly

## Effectiveness

This category rates the anti-malware effectiveness of a security product based on information from recently published material at reputable, third party testing sites. The sources we have used for this category are VB100 and AV Comparatives.

	ESET	Symantec
VB100 awards (#/success ratio)	62/ 97%	54/88%
# of Advanced+ awards in proactive/retrospective tests	13	0

## Ease of Use

This category examines the relative ease of use and handling for three common management use cases. The scenarios are: conducting an 'on-demand' scan of selected endpoints; creating and viewing a malware report 'on-demand'; and creating, assigning and deploying a new policy.

Task	ESET	Symantec
Conducting an 'on-demand' scan of selected endpoints	Simple	Simple
Creating and viewing a malware report 'on-demand'	Simple	Moderate
Creating, assigning and deploying a new policy	Simple	Simple