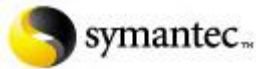


Enterprise Partner Case Study

Symantec and Microsoft Provide Layered, Real-Time Security Protection for Customers



Overview

Country or Region: Global

Industry: Software

Partner Profile

Symantec is the world leader in providing software solutions to help individuals and enterprises assure the security, availability, and integrity of their information.

Business Situation

Symantec recognized the demand for enhanced security across enterprise organizations and partnered with Microsoft to ensure the next generation of layered protection is more easily realized.

Solution

Symantec upgraded its AntiVirus products to run on the Windows Vista platform, and took advantage of new security features in the operating system to deliver layered protection for customers.

Benefits

- Provides flexibility of a multi-tiered security solution
- Helps protect data and applications
- Supports heterogeneous environments
- Allows for rapid updating and response
- Retains business continuity

Product Solution Items

- Windows Vista™
- Windows® Internet Explorer 7

“Symantec has partnered with Microsoft to help ensure customers migrating to the Windows Vista platform receive enhanced real-time protection with multilayered security, no matter how their environment is structured.”

Lauren Duda, Product Marketing Manager, Endpoint Security, Symantec

Symantec is a global leader in providing software, appliances, and services that help large enterprises assure the security, availability, and integrity of their most important asset: information. With facilities in 40 countries, Symantec offers a wide range of products including enterprise security, enterprise availability and services. Symantec’s goal is to provide enterprises with the best protection possible, which is why it chose to upgrade its Symantec AntiVirus™ product to support Microsoft® Corporation’s newest operating system, Windows Vista™. Working in conjunction with the new security features of the Windows Vista platform, Symantec provides layered protection against viruses, spyware, adware, and other malware that threatens enterprise IT environments.

Situation

Intellectual property and confidential information are critical to the value of a business. Ensuring secure and seamless access to that data can dramatically impact the bottom line. Securing an enterprise IT environment needs to start when computers are off, and it should continue when employees turn on their machines, log in, use applications, and send communications. It is crucial that organizations are protected from potential viruses and malware that may pass through the corporate firewall.

The cost of losing mission-critical data or intellectual property can oftentimes be catastrophic. In 2006, an FBI Computer Crime survey estimated the average company loss per virus incident was approximately \$69,125,¹ and losses from other threats are even higher. If a user cannot access critical information or if intellectual property is lost, a business can effectively come to a halt. The costs of user downtime, increased burden on IT administrators, and remediation following a security breach can be significant. Today's threats are constantly evolving, and users are increasingly exposed to socially engineered threats, such as 'dummy' websites, targeted attacks and phishing scams.² Symantec is committed to stopping security breaches before they impact critical operations.

To meet enterprise demand for the most complete protection available in order to maintain security, availability, performance and compliance, Symantec has teamed with Microsoft Corporation to help ensure that the next generation of layered protection is more easily and fully realized. Symantec chose to upgrade their AntiVirus products to run on the Windows Vista platform, and took advantage of new security features in the operating system (OS) to create layered protection for Microsoft customers base as well as their own. Layered security is a best practice that combines multiple security components, in this case the combination of Windows Vista and Symantec AntiVirus, to create a comprehensive and defensive barrier many times stronger than its individual parts. The base level of security protection in Windows Vista is higher than any previous version of

Windows®, and with added protection from Symantec, customers can feel confident in quickly making the transition to the new operating system.

Solution

Symantec has taken steps to help ensure that customers migrating to the Windows Vista platform receive enhanced real-time protection with multilayered security. Its industry-leading AntiVirus solution, Symantec Antivirus Enterprise Edition, provides virus and spyware/adware protection, real-time graphical reporting, centralized management, scalability, content filtering, and spam prevention for the Internet gateway and IBM Lotus Domino and Microsoft Exchange environments, along with malware protection for enterprise workstations and network servers. This comprehensive, easy-to-deploy solution combines award-winning technologies and Symantec's global response infrastructure, helping to provide effective protection at every network tier.

Windows Vista provides the foundation on which Symantec has built additional security solutions that help protect against particular risks that an organization may face. For example, Symantec has integrated its AntiVirus software with the latest Microsoft Installer Engine (MSI 4.0) to simplify deployment and administration and to ensure compatibility when installing the product on the Windows Vista platform. MSI 4.0 offers a unique opportunity to help reduce total cost of ownership (TCO) for customers using Symantec products. The MSI 4.0 format allows enterprises to use software deployment technologies such as Microsoft Systems Management Server (SMS) or Group Policy to distribute applications to many machines. The MSI 4.0 format and SMS require no user intervention, install more than one program at a time, including file and registry settings, can create an installation package for multiple computers, and can designate conditions when it will install. Symantec's ClickOnce deployment, in concert with Windows Vista, allows users to create self-updating applications that inherit permissions from the original installation.

Symantec has developed real-time device drivers that hook in to the Microsoft Transactional File System (TxF) to help ensure customers receive enhanced protection against viruses that may try to use

¹ 2006 CSI/FBI Computer Crime and Security Survey

² Symantec Internet Security Threat Report X, September 2006

the TxF real-time messaging and file transfer protocol to bypass conventional real-time detection schemes and exploit the system. Updates to Symantec's device drivers provide customers with cutting-edge protection against the latest techniques malware writers can use to attack a system.

Symantec also fully supports User Account Control (UAC) in Windows Vista. UAC helps to increase security and improve TCO by removing barriers that arise when using Windows Vista without administrator privileges. Symantec AntiVirus uses UAC to honor the Microsoft security policy of least privilege. When a user opens the AntiVirus user interface (UI) as a restricted administrator, they are prompted through Microsoft's user elevation prompts that they will be using an administrator application. UAC also provides AntiVirus with User Interface Privilege Isolation. When the AntiVirus UI is run at a higher security context, window messages can't be sent from a UI with a lower security context. This helps prevent privilege elevation through well-known exploits and attacks through a technique called shatter attacks.

Antivirus technology plays an important role in an enterprise defense strategy, but it must be joined by a coordinated, multilayered defense system to help protect against new and evolving threats. With enhanced data protection, antiphishing, antimalware, and sophisticated auditing tools to help improve corporate compliance, Windows Vista provides the most secure Windows-based PC OS ever. The Web browser of Windows Vista, Windows Internet Explorer®7, includes security enhancements that help protect users, and Windows Defender detects many types of suspicious software and can prompt the user before allowing potentially malicious changes. Symantec solutions build on the Windows Vista foundation, creating incremental protection and mutually supportive defenses to help address the latest generation of threats, including worms, viruses, and other malware.

Benefits

Protected data and applications

A company's information may face increasing risk, but it can help combat the threats with a Symantec security software solution and the enhanced security features of Windows Vista. Symantec business-ready solutions help to safeguard business-critical applications.

Support heterogeneous environments

Symantec recognizes that many enterprises run mixed, multi-platform environments. Symantec AntiVirus supports Windows Vista, but also other operating systems such as Linux, Novell Netware and earlier Windows platforms. This broad support allows the flexible infrastructures today's businesses require.

Rapid updating and response

Even with a security-enhanced operating system and an additional security solution in place, threats are constantly changing and becoming more complex. Having the most current virus definitions in place is critical, and Symantec's rapid update and response delivers ongoing and up-to-date virus definitions to minimize the threat of new and evolving malware. UAC in Windows Vista helps reduce the impact of malware and prevent installation even if defenses are breached. Symantec's perimeter of defense helps to ensure that all devices are current with security software before entering the corporate network. Such persistent enforcement enables IT to address the task of protecting corporations from exposure of intellectual property, costly network downtime, and possible regulatory fines that can undermine a company's brand integrity.

Keep business continuity

Antivirus Defense-in-Depth can help companies manage and recover their Windows Vista systems in the event of failure. Symantec solutions are backed by Symantec Security Response, the world's leading Internet security research and support organization.

For More Information

For more information about Microsoft products and services, call the Microsoft Sales Information Center at (800) 426-9400. In Canada, call the Microsoft Canada Information Centre at (877) 568-2495. Customers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing can reach Microsoft text telephone (TTY/TDD) services at (800) 892-5234 in the United States or (905) 568-9641 in Canada. Outside the 50 United States and Canada, please contact your local Microsoft subsidiary. To access information using the World Wide Web, go to:

www.microsoft.com

For more information about Symantec Corporation products and services, call (408) 517 8000, or visit the Web site at:

www.symantec.com

Microsoft Windows Vista

Windows Vista can help your organization use information technology to gain a competitive advantage in today's new world of work. Your people will be able to find and use information more effectively. You will be able to support your mobile work force with better access to shared data and collaboration tools. And your IT staff will have better tools and technologies to enhance corporate IT security, data protection, and more efficient deployment and management.

For more information about Windows Vista, go to:

www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/