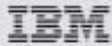


AVIA Osterwalder declares war on spam



Reference study IBM Proventia Network Mail Security System

The customer: Osterwalder St. Gallen AG

Osterwalder St. Gallen AG is a company that operates and is continuously expanding an extensive and elaborate service station network in eastern Switzerland. Moreover, within this region it is the leading fuel dealer and markets diverse lubricants.



„Thanks to the IBM Proventia Mail Security System, we are able to manage the daily flood of spam optimally, to the satisfaction of our employees, and thereby significantly increase the level of information security in our company.“

Holger Wunderlich, Leader ICT

Highlights

- **Simple to integrate:** As a mail-transfer agent, the mail security solution can be effortlessly integrated into practically any e-mail infrastructure – be it Lotus Notes, Microsoft Exchange or a Unix/Linux solution.
- **Fast implementation:** The entire solution could be installed with a work effort of 1 day on-site. The fine-tuning of the mail security solution is then done remotely via a secure VPN connection.
- **Integrated Intrusion Prevention System:** The integrated IPS reliably protects the e-mail infrastructure from attacks on existing weak points.
- **Reporting:** The management constantly receives reports about spam volumes, the type of spam as well as about malware attacks. In this way, the company management always has an overview of the technical level of security and is in a position to recognize the value of the investment made.

The challenge

The demands on spam solutions are becoming ever greater. Avia Osterwalder was using a solution that was no longer able to handle the flood of spam. The administrators had to make numerous manual interventions every day in order to guarantee the functioning of the mail traffic. The detection rate of the plentiful solutions based on freeware is today no longer adequate, and the solutions must therefore be replaced. You have to keep in mind that technically accomplished spammers will leave no stone unturned in their attempts to evade the spam filter, using all conceivable tricks.

This was clear to those responsible for ICT at Avia Osterwalder, and they therefore decided to look for a new solution on the market.

The solution

Avia Osterwalder decided on the installation of a [Network Mail Security System](#) by the IBM Business Partner [Mips Computer AG](#).

To be armed against the daily flood of spam, a highly modern, efficient security solution is called for. Efficient means a high rate of spam recognition and a minimum of number of false-positives, the mistaken identification of welcome mails as spam.

The on-going tests by the ICSA labs (www.icsalabs.com) confirm that the solution scores very well in this respect.

The customer also wanted a future-oriented solution which is geared towards coping with the expected doubling of spam volumes every 18 months.

The solution was implemented quickly and without problems. Apart from the maintenance of a global whitelist, no further work by the ICT department is necessary.

The solution has been employed for about a half year at Avia Osterwalder, where it is working faultlessly and to the complete satisfaction of the users.

The advantages of the IBM Proventia Network Mail Security solution

- **Zero Level Analysis:** the Zero Level Analysis module recently inserted into the current solution version enables highly efficient spam identification in the application storage. Thanks to this new functionality, with which approximately 90% of the spam can be identified, processing performance was increased sevenfold.
- **Preventative protection with the IBM Virtual Patch technology:** it protects the underlying mail infrastructure by blocking attacks on existing weak points. In this way, valuable time for testing and for the rollout of security updates and patches is gained, through which gaps in security can be plugged.
- **Dedicated or virtual:** the customer can operate the solution either in a virtual environment or on dedicated IBM x Series servers.
- **Updated several times a day:** the solution is based on a database that contains more than 100 billion web sites and analyzes more than 5 million spam messages per day.
- **Malware solution integrated:** a module for the signature-based identification of malware is additionally available.
- **Performance strengths:** the solution is suited to both small and medium-sized operations as well as for large companies with several thousand users.

Contact:

IBM Switzerland
[Markus Böck](#)
Vulkanstrasse 106
PO Box
8010 Zurich

Mips Computer AG
[Roger Schmid](#)
Oberdorfstrasse 13
PO Box
6340 Baar



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