

CP Secure

Content Security Gateway 100





Introduction

CP Secure, Inc. was founded in 2002 by former Trend Micro executives who have developed the next generation of anti-virus scanning and web content protection. CP Secure is privately held and has offices in the United States, Europe (Bonn), Taiwan, and China. Its mission is to build hardware solutions, which detect the most damaging threats in real time without degrading network performance. CP Secure's mainstay product line, the Content Security Gateway (CSG) ships in three models, catering for small to large organizations - CSG-100, CSG-300 and CSG-1000.

The CSG utilizes patent-pending streambased scanning, and integrates anti-virus, content and spam filtering into a single platform. The CSG detects and eliminate malicious content in real time at the Internet gateway before it can disrupt an organization's mission-critical business applications.

Safety

The ProtectStar test center conducted extensive tests on the CSG-100 to determine its virus detection capabilities. Its findings are as follows:

The CSG-100 appliance is a highly effective anti-virus solution because it is comprised of hardware and software components, thereby delivering exceptional performance.



It offers comprehensive virus handling options. When a virus is detected, the administrator can choose to repair the infected data, delete it, or deny access (quarantine it). Configurable notification options for the sender, receiver and administrator are also provided. The CSG is able to filter Internet traffic including email, and web-based applications on the HTTP and FTP protocols in real time.

The CSG-100 checks for malicious code at the packet level and provides bi-directional scanning on the following major protocols SMTP, HTTP, POP3, FTP and IMAP4. However, there are a few anti-virus vendors who provide coverage on up to seven protocols (HTTP, SMTP, POP3, IMAP4, FTP, NNTP and SOCKS). Even if the NNTP and SOCKS protocols are not routinely used in business applications, CP Secure could consider extending its coverage to include these protocols. In our tests, the CSG 100 was fed over 8,000 malicious files ranging from new "in the-wild viruses" to older MS-Dos boot viruses, worms and Trojans, as well as 3,000 uninfected files.

Many of the files were compressed into different archive types such as ZIP, ARJ and RAR. The CSG 100's virus detection rate is 98.36 percent, an excellent result. CP Secure updates its virus definitions daily and provides rapid response and updates during virus outbreaks.

Usability

Installing the Content Security Gateway was extremely easy. An installation wizard enables organizations to configure the appliances via a few simple and short steps. The web interface is visually appealing and clearly set out so that all functions can be easily accessed. The CSG's plug-and-play features enable it to be easily installed in the network without any alteration to the existing network setup.

The CSG-100 is configured via a secure password-protected web interface on a connected client. The administrator simply needs to access the default IP address over an Internet browser "192.168.248.248" (factory setting). The web-based management console provides convenient access to the all of the individual settings. The installation wizard enables the administrator to easily change the CSG's IP address so that it

conforms to the company's existing network.

The CSG offers flexible deployment and is particularly suited to growing companies as it can be installed at one or multiple points on the network. Companies can deploy the CSG at the Internet gateway to protect the entire LAN, or for dedicated email protection at the email server, or set up secure segments on their network, according to their corporate needs.



The CSG devices can be "stacked": two boxes can be connected with one cable to split the network load at the protocol level, for example one CSG-100 processes HTTP, IMAP and FTP protocols and the second CSG-100 processes the SMTP and POP3 protocols. The CSG's notification options are particularly useful. Administrators can receive notification of virus outbreaks via email and pager, and can easily configure the CSG to send virus, network, and system reports at specified time intervals to their email addresses.

Administrators also have a choice of report formats including bar charts, pie charts, text and CSV formats. The CSG features automatic virus definition, engine, and pattern updates via a secure connection (HTTPS/SSL). Updates can be configured to occur daily or at specified times and dates, thereby, guaranteeing continued protection against emerging threats without user intervention. During virus outbreaks, additional updates



are provided. A slight drawback of automatic updates is that the procedure is relatively long - between one to two minutes. However, the CSG provides continuous virus protection during the update process because it switches to the new version only after the pattern files and/or engine updates are completely downloaded.

Performance

CP Secure appliances provide unrivalled performance due to its unique stream-based technology and real-time scanning. The CSG greatly reduces the risk of network attacks and server timeouts, especially when compared to proxy-based anti-virus solutions on the market today. The appliances can withstand sudden spikes in network traffic and email loads in the event of virus or spam attacks, without impacting network performance.

The CSG-100 processes up to 65,000 messages (15Kb/E-Mail) per hour. CP Secure recommends that it be used in environments with approximately one hundred concurrent users. In our series of tests, the CSG-100 operated at peak performance against increasing network loads without any loss in output or negative performance impact.

Larger companies can select the CSG-300 or CSG-1000, which processes up to 170,000 or 350,000 messages per hour respectively. The CSG 1000 is designed to support approximately 1000 active users.



Support

Companies receive a two-year hardware guarantee when they purchase the CSG and are provided with the first year of support and software and pattern updates at no additional cost.

The Content Security Gateway is sold through a select network of resellers. Contact CP Secure at info@cpsecure.com to be put in touch with a reseller in your area. Customers can access the CSG's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) from the corporate web site at www.cpsecure.com

Another highlight is the "Inside the Box" support. A secure in-built tunnel enables CP Secure technical staff to remotely and rapidly troubleshoot the CSG in the event of system or network malfunction. In addition, suspicious files can be submitted to virus_help@cpsecure.com for timely analysis.

Price / Performance

Priced at just over 2,000 Euros, CP Secure's CSG-100 is exceptional value especially when compared to similar solutions, which are priced between 4,000 and 8,000, and don't provide the same level of performance. With CP Secure there are no hidden costs or per-user costs, and companies can easily protect their workforce as it grows without incurring additional costs. Its additional spam and content filtering functionalities make it our recommendation in terms of price and performance.

The previously mentioned CSG-300 and CSG-1000 are recommended for larger companies and cost 5,000 Euros and 12,500 Euros respectively.

Conclusion

The innovative CP Secure Content Security Gateway offers outstanding protection at the Internet gateway, ensuring maximum protection to mission-critical business applications. Its combination of hardware and software components as well as its stream-based architecture offer unequalled performance. Real-time scanning on the HTTP, SMTP, FTP, POP3 and IMAP protocols make the Content Security Gateway a "state of the art" anti-virus solution at a very favourable price. Its spam and content filtering capabilities, including support for white and black lists as well as URL-blocking round of its security



functions nicely. It is especially important to emphasise the CSG's excellent virus detection rate of 98.36%.

The Content Security Gateway 100 (CSG-100) has been awarded "ProtectStar- AWARD 2005" for its exceptional scanning performance, which requires minimal administration, its excellent virus detection rate, and as well its highly skilled support staff.







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