

**Organization**

Times Now

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News Media



“We were looking for a solution that can provide us the best value for our money without compromising on security. Cyberoam UTM proved to be the best fit.”

Sunil Mattoo,
Manager,
Broadcast IT,
TIMES NOW

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Cyberoam: Identity-based Security for 24-Hour News Channel

Background

TIMES NOW is a 24-hour English news television channel. A joint venture of Bennett, Coleman & Co and Reuters, it is part of the Times Group, the largest media conglomerate in South Asia, with leadership in newspaper publishing, magazines, music retailing, FM Radio, Internet, interactive media, mobile services and lifestyle television.

Reuters is a global information company providing news and financial information to financial professionals, media organizations and consumers around the world. Its news operation of 2300 editorial staff spread in 196 bureaus serving 129 countries, makes Reuters the world's largest international multimedia news agency.

Challenge

A new entrant in the fiercely competitive electronic media market, TIMES NOW was on the look out for tight Internet security. Spam and blended threats consisting of spyware and Trojans were the prime source of concern. TIMES NOW was concerned about spam as it would not only eat into precious bandwidth, but would also pose storage crisis.

TIMES NOW was clear that effective security ensured business continuity which was a pre-requisite to high levels of competitiveness in its field. A single virus attack and the resultant down time could severely affect the channel's functioning.

In-depth researched reports are part of the channel's confidential information repository, requiring high levels of protection against internal threats leading to breach of confidential details.

“The extensive and varied browsing that staff was meant to do and the 24 x 7, 365 days a year functionality of our channel demanded continuous and automated, identity and schedule-based security and access controls,” says Sunil Mattoo, (Manager, Broadcast IT, TIMES NOW).

TIMES NOW needed a good firewall, web filter, anti-virus, anti-spam and bandwidth management. But multiple solutions were not in the reckoning. Although backed by two big names, the high cost of multiple devices was a real consideration. More importantly, the channel did not want to overload itself needlessly with multiple technical resources required to maintain these appliances.

“Cyberoam UTM's identity-based policies and reporting provides assurance that our corporate IT assets are secure and working productively.”

“Cyberoam UTM's anti-virus and anti-spam are controllable through granular scan policies. Identity and schedule are used as control parameters in the scans. This is a very helpful feature as we can now control the scans and also control the action thereafter. Self-service quarantine was an added advantage; as we encouraged our users to self manage their quarantined mails without the administrator's intervention...”

Cyberoam Solution

TIMES NOW evaluated various security products and finally chose Cyberoam for its superior functionality and extreme simplicity. Of its complete security suite, Cyberoam delivered identity-based firewall, VPN, anti-virus, anti-spam, web filtering and bandwidth management as per TIMES NOW requirement, offering comprehensive protection.

“Apart from its very competitive pricing, the first thing that caught our attention about Cyberoam UTM was its user-friendliness in installation and management,” says Mattoo. “It allayed our apprehensions related to complex GUI and installations of Internet security solutions.”

Cyberoam UTM blended seamlessly with their existing Active Directory Services (ADS) and the Automated Single Sign-On feature saved Mattoo from creating each user individually on the UTM. “Cyberoam proved to be a truly integrated security appliance,” says Mattoo. “Despite the multiple security features, it offered centralized management and controls through a single firewall page. “The inclusion of user identity and schedule in the decision matrix of the firewall proved to be a panacea for TIMES NOW. With the individual user forming the central point of its security solution, Cyberoam offered high levels of protection through individualized access controls.

Cyberoam UTM's Identity-based reports ensured a transparent network. The identity-based intelligent reporting of Cyberoam gave Mattoo complete visibility into the end-user behavior, allowing him to spot anomalies and internal threats quickly. Using this feedback he could remodel his security policies to reflect the organization's security needs. TIMES NOW has four different groups of users which consist of Top Executives, Programmers, Editors and Marketing, each with very different browsing patterns. “Cyberoam UTM's web filtering anti-virus and anti-spam scans are controllable through granular scan policies,” says Mattoo. “We can also control the Self-service virus quarantine area which is an added advantage as we encouraged our users to manage their quarantined mails themselves without the administrator's intervention.”

Cyberoam UTM has an on-appliance 60+ category strong web filtering database called WebCat. Coupled with granular policies the web filtering solution enabled them to create security and control policies based on the actual work profile. Web filtering is also useful in providing selective access to web mails and control the size and type of attachments.

Cyberoam UTM's bandwidth management solution assigned downloading rights and priority to users according to their professional needs. Policy-based bandwidth management facilitated identity-based, time schedule-based bandwidth availability to specify the amount and the speed of downloads that a group of users or individual users are allowed, ensuring that critical requirements had sufficient bandwidth at their disposal.

In short, Cyberoam UTM really gave us the best value for money,” Mattoo concluded.



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