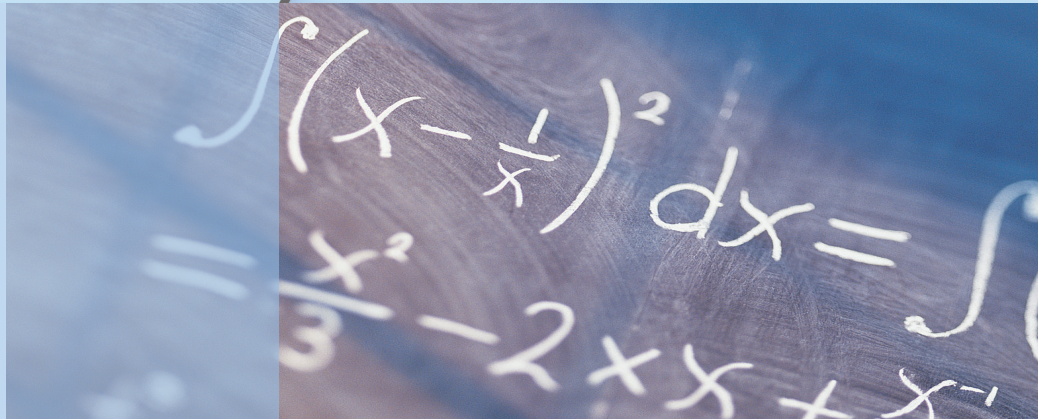




“The proven track record sets the IP Appliances apart from the others. The ADP modules for IP Appliances complement the next-generation multi-core security appliances and are the only solution available that fully meets our high connectivity and acceleration requirements.”

IT Manager, Department of Education



CUSTOMER

Department of Education

INDUSTRY

Education, Government Sector

CHALLENGE

Refresh network and Web services infrastructure, including a firewall upgrade

CHECK POINT PRODUCTS

- IP2450 security appliances
- ADP service modules
- Check Point SecureXL™ software

BENEFITS

Delivers robust 10 GbE connectivity and exceptional performance, and provides flexibility for changing traffic patterns and reliable protection

Department of Education Relies on IP Appliances to Meet Expanding Latency and Performance Needs

The Department of Education in an Asia-Pacific country is the lead government agency providing national leadership in education and workplace training. The Department is committed to providing easy and informative access to services and support programs that meet educational objectives. The Department has more than 6000 staff working across the country to develop policy and advise government, deliver programs and services, and provide information and guidance on everything from early childhood education to employment and workplace relations.

THE CHALLENGE

One of the primary functions of the Department of Education is to provide educational training at approximately 2500 school sites across the country for 1.3 million students and adults. With classrooms often located in remote locations such as rural farmlands, the Department relies on video conferencing via satellite in order to supplement local teaching capabilities. Video conferencing also allows classrooms to connect with the International Space Station for real-time science discussions with astronauts and with scuba divers exploring coral reefs. The government provides all students in grades 10 through 12 with laptop computers for learning purposes.

In order to handle the increased bandwidth requirements created by video conferencing, an electronic curriculum, VoIP, and the high log-on rates of student users, IT administrators faced the critical challenge of refreshing and upgrading the Department’s complex network and Web services infrastructure. The Department needed to upgrade its WAN links with all 2500 school sites in order to run upwards of 10 GbE of bandwidth out of the central data center. Additionally, department administrators recognized that a more powerful firewall infrastructure would also be required to achieve top performance.

THE CHECK POINT SOLUTION

The Department turned to its trusted security provider to upgrade its existing IP2250, IP2255, and IP1260 security platforms. The expert security solutions team determined that six IP2450 security appliances, six 10 GbE Accelerated Data Path (ADP) service modules, six 1GbE ADP service modules, and Check Point SecureXL™ software would provide the optimum performance to meet the Department's stringent latency demands.

High-port density ADP service modules meet the Department's evolving Internet traffic needs. Working in conjunction with IP2450 security appliances, workloads can be effectively offloaded from the main CPU onto the ADP service modules to increase performance significantly. This "appliance within an appliance" ADP architecture functions similarly to a network co-processor, freeing up resources and realizes substantial efficiencies.

THE BENEFITS

IT administrators at the Department of Education considered implementation of the infrastructure upgrades to be a resounding success. "The proven track record of the products sets them apart from the others," stated the IT manager at the Department of Education. "The ADP modules complement the next-generation multi-core security appliances and are the only solution available that fully meets our high connectivity and specific acceleration requirements. It truly is an 'appliance within an appliance' and well worth our investment."

The security solution is especially well suited for handling the unique traffic profile of student users, who log on and off repeatedly throughout the day when traveling from classroom to classroom, and the heavy bandwidth requirements created by video conferencing, an electronic curriculum, VoIP, and proactive email usage. The security gateways maximize available protection for the Department's network.

IT managers explained that product functionality, an exceptional price/performance ratio, low latency results, modular architecture, and the ability to respond to specific traffic profiles were the key measures of success delivered by IP2450 security platforms. Equally important was the support provided. "We were constantly impressed by the high level of support from the team, their ability to understand our pain-points, and their desire to help us work through them," added the IT manager. "They were incredibly flexible throughout the engagement and used all of their resources to solve any problems we encountered."

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