

Situation

One of the oldest and largest media houses in India, the Hindustan Times group owns and runs two of the largest newspapers in India. They are the Hindustan Times in English and the Hindustan in Hindi published from multiple cities across the country. While it has presence in scores of cities across India, the group has publications in more than 15 locations across India.

Hindustan Times today operates in a highly competitive business environment that is marked by hyper growth potential, entry of new players and diversification of media companies into new areas. The Hindustan Times group is in expansion mode. The company has not only a new edition of its flagship newspaper Hindustan Times from Mumbai but has also diversified into FM radio broadcast. The group recently launched FM radio channel "Fever 104 FM". It is also close to launching a new business daily in Delhi and Mumbai.

Hindustan Times

With networking and IT playing a critical role in its daily operations as well in its growth, it is obvious that protection of IT assets from malicious attacks and threats will always be of paramount importance for the group.

Hindustan Times has users spread across 15 locations in India who access application like emails, intranet and Internet resources through the corporate data center located in New Delhi. It has a huge wide area network (WAN) pool as well as Internet bandwidth terminating in New Delhi to satisfy the end user requirements.

Hindustan Times wanted a solution to not only help prevent attacks or intrusions but also a solution to better utilize the Internet resources. It achieved both these goals with Fortinet.

"We were looking forward to a robust and a scalable solution which could help us prevent our internal environment against external attacks, like operating system vulnerabilities, viruses, worms and unauthorized intrusion," says Amit Khanna of Hindustan Times. Khanna adds that to use its Internet resources better Hindustan Times also wanted to implement a solution to allow only legitimate use of Internet bandwidth.

Solution

With these challenges in mind, Hindustan Times wanted a solution that will not only help prevent attacks or intrusions in its network but also a solution that will help it better utilize the Internet resources. "In mid 2006 when we looked at the Fortinet product profile it appeared to suit our requirements. We underwent tests and POC at various levels to justify our needs," Khanna says.

Before zeroing in on Fortinet, Hindustan Times evaluated various other solutions based on the similar architecture running on software and hardware platform. So what made Hindustan Times go for the Fortinet solution? "The key advantages which made Fortinet as a preference in our case was the ASIC based architecture design, Multilevel Unified Threat Management and support and service from the channel partners," explains Khanna.

Success

Among the many benefits that Hindustan Times is seeing since their Fortinet deployment are:

- Prevention of all kinds of threats from viruses and worms, check on intrusion threats and vulnerabilities from entering the internal environment
- All attacks are handled at the gateway level
- Better utilization of Internet resources

According to Khanna, the Fortinet solution, after being deployed, helped Hindustan Times achieve what it desired. "The solution helped us provide a mechanism to minimize attacks in respect threats specified above at the gateway level. It also provided us with a tool to implement a global content

filtering solution to help us use our Internet resources in a better way,” points out Khanna. He says that the solution which was designed in a high availability mode intends to provide 100% uptime to prevent any such future attacks.

The Fortinet solution has helped Hindustan Times prevent all kinds of threats from virus and worms, and check intrusion and vulnerabilities from entering its internal environment. Overall, with Fortinet, Khanna is confident of handling all attacks or threats at the gateway level itself. “Any such threat is killed in the DMZ before it hits our internal resources. The primary benefit that we desired from such a solution was to provide a layer of security to our end user’s from new attacks at the gateway level itself. This goal we have achieved after the Fortinet implementation,” Khanna says.

Talking about the future, Khanna says that he is looking at security architecture at branch level and is looking forward to implement solutions in a similar manner at various levels on the company’s Intranet.

“Fortinet solutions has helped Hindustan Times prevent all kinds of threats from virus and worms, check intrusion threats and vulnerabilities from entering our internal environment,” concluded Khanna.

About Fortinet

Fortinet is the pioneer and leading provider of ASIC-accelerated unified threat management, or UTM, security systems, which are used by enterprises and service providers to increase their security while reducing total operating costs. Fortinet solutions were built from the ground up to integrate multiple levels of security protection—including firewall, antivirus, intrusion prevention, VPN, spyware prevention and anti-spam -- designed to help customers protect against network and content level threats. Leveraging a custom ASIC and unified interface, Fortinet solutions offer advanced security functionality that scales from remote office to chassis-based solutions with integrated management and reporting. Fortinet solutions have won multiple awards around the world and are the only security products that are certified in seven programs by ICSA Labs: (Firewall, Antivirus, IPSec, SSL, Network IPS, Anti-Spyware, and Anti-Spam). Fortinet is privately held and based in Sunnyvale, California.

CAS185-0608