

# ClaringtonFunds

## Finance Vertical

### Situation

Clarington Corporation is an independent wealth management company. Through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, ClaringtonFunds Inc. and Clarington Investments Inc., Clarington Corporation promotes, manages and distributes mutual funds and closed-end funds and has more than \$4.1 billion of assets under management. The finance company provides network access and mission critical applications for its network of users over five regional offices and numerous remote employees. After ClaringtonFunds was infected by a virus at one of its regional offices, protecting its encrypted wide area network from virus attacks became a priority. The company took steps to examine its existing security measures and research network security solutions with the functionality to stop threats before they enter its network.

For ClaringtonFunds, as with most financial businesses, securing multiple remote locations for a user base is a common issue faced by its resident IT staff. This issue is compounded with the growing numbers of threats present, ranging from your everyday spam and spyware, to the malicious virus-type applications that can wreck havoc on any computing infrastructure. Small nuisances can quickly turn into major problems if traffic is left unprotected and unmonitored.

ClaringtonFunds Technology Manager George Ho kept all of these security challenges in mind while evaluating his existing security measures and researching the best security technology to keep unwanted and malicious network traffic and threats out of his company's network. In addition, to best suit its distributed network protection needs, ClaringtonFunds was looking for an integrated security platform as deploying many single-point security product solutions can increase administrative overhead such that it defeats the effectiveness.

"We were not satisfied with traditional solutions, such as stand-alone firewalls," said Ho. "We were looking for a flexible, multifunction platform with an array of security features that could adapt not only to changing threats, but allow our network to grow as well."

### Solution

ClaringtonFunds evaluated several leading security vendor products, including Symantec and Borderware. With such innovative companies' products available to meet any security needs, Fortinet was able to provide a superior value proposition by offering several core security features such as integrated antivirus, VPN, Web content filtering, firewall, anti-spam, intrusion prevention and traffic shaping in a single easy-to-manage, ASIC-accelerated appliance. "Fortinet offered an array of features available only through a combination of competitors' products," said Ho. "The integration of features in Fortinet's FortiGate security appliances requires less management, which is important when multiple security devices need to be deployed."

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*"We have deployed FortiGate security appliances at every entry point to our network. This ensures that we have a high degree of security, even between trusted sources, which is imperative in protecting our data across our wide area network. Because the FortiGate systems are deployed as our VPN endpoints, we are able to minimize the amount of unwanted traffic in our network."*

*- George Ho,  
Technology Manager*

Fortinet Products in Use:  
FortiGate-400 systems  
FortiGate-60 systems  
FortiWiFi-60 system  
FortiGate-50A systems

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To secure its user community, including regional offices and numerous remote employees, Clarington has deployed Fortinet's FortiGate integrated security appliances across its extended enterprise, mostly to serve as front-line security devices to block threats of all types before entering its network.

Fortigate-400 enterprise security appliances are deployed as a cluster for high-availability capabilities to protect the firm's mission critical applications, including Lotus Domino and SQL Server on a Windows platform. FortiGate-60 small/medium business (SMB) security appliances were deployed at branch locations; a FortiWiFi-60 SMB security appliance was deployed at a branch office for secure wireless connection; and FortiGate-50A small office security appliances were made available for users with home offices.

### Success

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ClaringtonFunds is pleased with the ease of installation and support, and almost immediate results after deploying Fortinet's FortiGate systems. "We had our FortiGate security appliances up and running within the day, a result of the friendly GUI and support from Fortinet. Since the implementation, we've been able to monitor a 90% decrease in virus activity alone," said Ho.

As a result of ClaringtonFunds' successful deployment of the FortiGate systems, the company is currently evaluating Fortinet's FortiLog systems, which are dedicated logging and reporting appliances that securely aggregate and analyze log data from multiple FortiGate systems.

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Tel: +1-408-235-7700 - Sales: +1-866-868-3678 - Tech Support: +1-866-648-4638

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