

Medway Council overhauls IT security in five-figure deal

Fortinet has installed FortiGate anti-virus technology for Medway Council to protect its 116 schools from inappropriate Web content.

The software has been implemented across the council's managed network of 5,000 school computers after it discovered its original security system was not flexible enough to filter sensitive emails or scan for viruses.

The FortiGate family of ASIC-based products is designed to detect and eliminate content-based threats from email and Web traffic such as viruses, worms, intrusions and inappropriate Web content in real-time, without degrading network performance.

"With the volume of email traffic generated by our schools, we quickly realised our current IT security system was not as flexible as required, so we looked to upgrade and chose Fortinet," said Michael O'Connor, network manager at Medway Council.

"The ubiquity of the Internet means that security is paramount," added Jonathan Mepsted, regional director, UK and Ireland at Fortinet. "But in this day and age, a basic firewall on its own just won't cut it. Organisations need to look at a range of network-level services - VPN, intrusion detection, traffic shaping, as well as firewalls. Just as importantly, they need to realise that this level of protection is available without having to compromise on performance or cost."