Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza needed a security solution that could protect its remote sites from Internet-borne malware, with easy and centralized management. Sophos Cloud offered Anthony's a powerful and cost-effective solution that provides business continuity and supports the company’s future growth.

Customer-at-a-Glance

Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza
Industry
Retail

Sophos Solutions
Sophos Cloud
Founded in 2002 by Anthony Bruno, Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza is an award-winning and popular provider of “Italian soul food” with 48 company-owned restaurants throughout Florida, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The company’s signature pizzas are cooked in an 800-degree coal-fired oven that gives them an authentic and well-done character that has become Anthony’s trademark.

“Sophos is a critical element in our overall vision for Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza. We view Sophos as a strategic partner to help our business double in size over the next few years.”

TIM SHAW
Director of Technology
Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza

Business Challenge

Keeping its 48 restaurants secure from Internet threats and malware is a high priority for Anthony's. Although the point-of-sale systems are protected by firewall software that blocks Internet access, the restaurant manager at each site uses a separate PC to access the open Internet for tasks such as ordering provisions, paying invoices, and sending email. Panda Security antivirus software was previously installed on each PC, but it proved ineffective at blocking malware. In fact, two of the PCs had to be re-formatted to remove business-crippling viruses.

In addition, Anthony’s small IT department was challenged to effectively monitor and manage security at an enterprise level since each remote location was served by a different ISP and each had its own security and Web browsing policies.
Technology Solution

“We needed a solution that would give us centralized control over the entire security environment and make it easier to perform maintenance tasks such as pushing out software updates,” explains Tim Shaw, director of technology, Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza. “At the same time, it was critical to deploy more effective protection against malware and a universal Web access policy for all of our remote sites.”

On the recommendation of Sophos reseller CDW, Anthony’s chose Sophos Cloud to address its security requirements. Sophos Cloud is an integrated solution for securing every type of endpoint in a distributed enterprise, with a clean, intuitive interface and a single management console hosted in the cloud by Sophos. In addition to comprehensive antivirus protection, Sophos Cloud provides Anthony’s with robust Web filtering and Internet security tools. “I didn’t expect to find a single software product that could address both requirements,” Shaw confirms. “Sophos Cloud is the comprehensive solution we needed.”

Management Made Simple

After a trial period running Sophos Cloud on his own system, Shaw was able to install the solution on all company machines within minutes via remote login. “Sophos Cloud’s fast and straightforward deployment was a welcome surprise, and the cloud-based management console takes away the complexity of making sure all of our local computers are protected,” he notes. “Sitting in my office, I can see, in an instant, which remote computers are updating – and I get an automatic notification every time the software blocks a malware attack.”

When an employee recently needed access to a blocked website after business hours, Shaw was able to log onto Sophos Cloud from home and perform the task in seconds. “I remember thinking, ‘it can’t be that simple,’” he remarks.

An IT Future in the Cloud

With business continuity in mind, Shaw has set a goal to migrate as much of the computing infrastructure as possible to cloud-based solutions. “Our company was working with a managed service provider before, and I was tasked with bringing the IT function back under the Anthony’s umbrella,” he relates. “Solutions such as Sophos Cloud are enabling our company to take back control of its environment without having to make a large capital investment in hardware and hire a large IT department to maintain it. Sophos Cloud lets us deliver endpoint security in a very lean fashion while allowing me to work more strategically on projects.”

Shaw adds that Sophos Cloud is far more than just an IT checkbox; it is an essential component in business continuity. “I come from a disaster recovery background, and for me business continuity boils down to keeping all of our 48 restaurants running so that revenues aren’t affected,” he states. “By protecting our local computers from Internet threats that can shut down the business, Sophos is a critical element in our overall vision for Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza. We view Sophos as a strategic partner to help our business double in size over the next few years.”
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TIM SHAW
Director of Technology
Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza

Seamless Web Security

“Since the Web is the most common infection vector for our remote PCs, we wanted to control Web access without interfering with our managers’ ability to run the business,” Shaw adds.

“Sophos Cloud lets us do that by automatically preventing access to malicious and infected websites, while detecting and blocking exploit code in JavaScript, PDFs and Flash objects.”

He adds that Sophos Cloud has enabled Anthony’s to set and enforce a company-wide security policy. “Previously, nothing was truly protecting our remote computers from Web threats. Now, we’re able to enforce Web filtering policies at the endpoint and make sure malware stays out of the systems in the first place,” he explains.

Start your free trial of Sophos Cloud today.