SOPHOS

scrutton bland
accountants tax advisers insurance brokers financial advisers

Customer-at-a-Glance

Scrutton Bland are based across three sites in the UK. Their team comprises accountants, tax advisers, insurance brokers and independent financial advisers.

Industry
Financial services

Number of Employees
160

Sophos Solutions
Sophos UTM
Sophos RED
Safeguard Encryption

Sophos Customer
Since 2008

Financial services company and long-term Sophos customer Scrutton Bland upgrade to Sophos UTM for consolidated security, protection and network provision.

"Sophos UTM frees up 1-2 hours of admin time every day because it does the job automatically."

IAN DOE
IT Manager
Scrutton Bland

Ian Doe is IT Manager at Scrutton Bland. Alongside him work a team of four others; managing the IT infrastructure across three sites – Colchester, Ipswich and Diss. Scrutton Bland are long-term Sophos customers and have been using Sophos products to protect their staff and systems since 2003. Having previously used the Sophos Gateway Protection Suite for a number of years, Ian realised he needed to widen the functionality - in particular to include encryption of devices moving on and off the network.

"We have improved our reporting and we are easily able to manage bandwidth as a result. The 'hotspot' Wi-Fi is also ideal for staff and clients using their own devices."

IAN DOE
IT Manager
Scrutton Bland

Business Challenge

Over the last decade business practices have changed at Scrutton Bland. They now have three offices, staff working across multiple sites, and see both clients and internals using their own laptops and smartphones on and off the network. Although happy with the existing Sophos solution, Ian and his team knew there were more possibilities; with new products on the market to extend the level of security available, whilst also creating efficiencies and time savings for the IT team.

A number of years ago the IT staff were manually reviewing around 6,000 quarantined emails a day, taking one person half a day a week, and also falling foul of human error, putting the network at risk. Ian knew that with Sophos UTM the time and risks associated with this could be completely eliminated.

Encryption was also top of Ian's list. He was aware of the challenges faced and the fines involved with lost or stolen data in the financial services sector, and it was up to him and his team to ensure this kind of breach did not take place.

Ian also wanted to improve the firewall, the Wi-Fi and make reporting more detailed.

He turned to Sophos and Sophos partner EACS for advice in 2013.

A customer success story

"Now we are fully protected, have additional functionality, can easily track users' behaviour and see an audit trail." concludes Ian. "Sophos is a fantastic company to work with."

IAN DOE
IT Manager
Scrutton Bland

Technology solution

Sophos UTM & Sophos RED

Scrutton Bland now have three Sophos UTMs (2 x 320 and 1 x 120). All users are channeled through the Sophos RED box to the Diss office location UTM which allows Scrutton Bland to save money on additional licensing.

'Hotel-style' Wi-Fi hotspots

The company also use the UTMs for 'hotel style' Wi-Fi hotspots for staff and clients to access on premise using their own devices. This provides increased flexibility as well as added security. The wireless key set by Sophos UTM automatically expires after a set period of time requiring no input from the IT team compared to a previously manual and lengthier process. This also offers improved security for the organisation, with mobile devices now unable to connect to the network externally. According to Ian, "Sophos UTM separates out the guest users from staff and places each in their protective bubble while cutting down the admin time for us."

Whitelisting

Furthermore, the Sophos solution allows own user whitelisting so employees are able to accept emails from selected parties, also taking the load off the firewall and the IT team who can get on with more proactive tasks.

Safeguard Encryption

The company has also recently opted for Sophos Safeguard Encryption to protect mobile devices and USB pens that could get lost or stolen.

Sophos antivirus

Additionally, the team will soon be switching from Kaspersky to Sophos antivirus, in particular a benefit for staff requiring antivirus at home. Ian is impressed that Sophos UTM has two antivirus engines, ideal for covering an extended range of prospective threats.

Business results

Upgrading to Sophos UTM turned out to be a simple and quick change for Scrutton Bland:

"We were able to do all of this ourselves," enthuses Ian. "We watched a few videos and webinars and we managed the implementation with no problems. When we do need to contact support, the team there is very knowledgeable and always has the answers we need."

Ian and the team are clearly delighted with the results. They say they would recommend Sophos to others because "it's easy to set-up, easy-to-use and saves a vast amount of time."

Ian lists the main benefits of using Sophos products as being:

- Increased security for staff
- Improved yet controlled access for visitors
- Cost savings over a three year period
- Considerable time savings (up to half a day each week)
- Improved firewall protection
- Vastly improved reporting
- Easier bandwidth monitoring and control
- Protected, encrypted devices on and off the network
- Partner company EACS who have been "great to deal with"

To find out more about Sophos Solutions, call (0)8447 671131 or email sales@sophos.com