ECN GUARANTEES HIGH SECURITY LEVELS

KASPERSKY lab

ECN

ENERGY RESEARCH CENTRE OF THE NETHERLANDS (ECN) IS COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABILITY - AND NOT ONLY WHEN IT COMES TO ENERGY.

Energy

- *Headquartered in Petten, The Netherlands*
- *Using Kaspersky Total Security for Business*

Kaspersky Total Security for Business helps to guarantee the security of all servers, desktops and laptops of the institute and of its subsidiary, Nuclear Research and Consultancy Group (NRG). This complete solution saved ECN thousands of euros on separate patch management software. The protection of home PCs is also carefully managed.

The Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN) is the largest Dutch research institute in the field of energy. Together with industry, (local) government and other institutions, ECN conducts sun energy, wind energy, biomass, energy efficiency and environment & energy engineering projects. Strategic studies are also carried out. Subsidiary organisation, the Nuclear Research and Consultancy Group (NRG), is the leading nuclear service provider in the Netherlands. In total 1,200 people are employed.

ECN must meet high requirements in the area of data protection. Computer viruses and other malware must be totally excluded - from office applications as well as from applications for measurement and control technology, analysis and the implementation of experiments. Employees working from home must also have secure distant access to the central ICT systems.

"Patching and updating is a hot item: an organisation needs to know the exact security level of its applications in order to remain up-to-date."

Laurus Buth, IT Security Officer,
Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN)

The most important component of the ECN ICT infrastructure is a client server environment with Microsoft and Linux. "The swift detection and harmless elimination of malicious software within this environment is essential and must be completely trustworthy. This is why we had another good look at the best solution the market could offer when the contract with our previous antivirus software supplier expired last year," said Laurus Buth, IT Security Officer at ECN.

Challenge

ECN invited various antivirus software suppliers to tender on the basis of research by the prominent American market analysts, Gartner Group. "We looked at which solutions scored best. We didn't just score existing functionality - we included the supplier's ongoing product development.

The Kaspersky Lab software was rated the best, followed by the products of two other suppliers. We then invited these three companies, together with the supplier of our existing solution, to submit proposals," said Buth.

Encryption and centralised management included

Kaspersky Lab's proposal appeared in many respects to be the most favourable for ECN. "We mainly wanted an effective antivirus solution for our servers, desktops and laptops - but we had some additional requirements. The availability of encryption, for instance, was also important to us - as we still had a number of old Windows XP systems which can't use Microsoft BitLocker," explained Buth.

ECN also wanted to centrally manage the antivirus software. And a tool for patch management was also on the list. "Patching and updating is a hot item: as an organisation you need to know exactly what the security level of your operating systems and applications is, so you can keep up-to-date," said Buth. Application control, whereby the organisation itself can simply determine which applications may be deployed within the company network, was also an interesting option for ECN.

SECURE
Up-to-date access to the security levels of control systems and applications

CONTROL
Effective detection of viruses and malware in both office and home

COST
Savings of many thousands of euros

FASTER
Ensured that threats are rapidly traced and eliminated

ecn.nl

1,200
Employees

1,000s
Of euros saved

The Kaspersky Lab Solution

Kaspersky Total Security for Business provided a single solution which satisfied all requirements and in addition saved ECN many thousands of euros. "The Kaspersky Lab solution provides standard functionality that maintains the security level of our 300 most important software packages. This meets our needs and saves us a large investment in a separate patch management tool. Moreover, an integrated solution like this, providing complete access to the security status of the systems, is very useful," said Buth.

Migration success

ECN assigned WebLimits, a Kaspersky Lab's partner, to perform the migration of the Kaspersky Lab software. "Our own IT department was too busy with other projects and we had a tight deadline, as the licence of our antivirus solution was soon to expire. WebLimits completed the migration within two weeks and with a minimum of help from our side. The collaboration was very good," said Buth.

Home users' web shop

Kaspersky Lab created a web shop environment for home users: employees can purchase Kaspersky Lab antivirus software at a reduced price and download it onto their home PC.

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Kaspersky Lab HQ

39A/3 Leningradskoe Shosse
Moscow, 125212
info@kaspersky.com
www.kaspersky.com

For more information about Kaspersky products and services contact your account rep or visit www.kaspersky.com