



Avira Success



In favor of security:

Allianz Suisse protects its network with multi-stage anti-virus concept

Insurance is a matter of trust. Allianz Suisse plays safe in terms of data protection by using a multi-stage security concept against viruses, worms and other digital intruders based on Groupware Lotus Domino which provides the day-to-day trust in the in-house IT infrastructure.

The database of Avira includes more than 700,000 different viruses. The flow of spyware, Trojans, rootkits, viruses and worms has hit its peak in the past years. In 2006, especially worms that take control of host applications, network services or a users interaction were the most frequent and dangerous digital intruders typically spreading through email: Tjark Auerbach, CEO of the security specialist strikes a sad balance: "eight out of ten of the current heavily spread harmful programs belong to this category". With around 23 percent of spread, the worm "Netsky.P" is at the top of the list of the most active harmful programs. Just when the biggest spam wave of all time took place, the spreading of malware was very popular.

These statistics are very concerning for companies whose everyday business depends on the smooth flow of email communication. In the long term, this also applies to the Swiss subsidiary of the Allianz group: With a monthly email flow of around one million digital messages that are sent to its 4.000 users, email is the most important communication media of the corporation. The permanent availability of the email servers is crucial for the company: "all incoming and outgoing emails need to be checked for viruses, in order not to endanger our company", underlines Robert Spaltenstein of Allianz Suisse when talking about the importance of all-embracing security mechanisms. "For an insurance company it is simply not tolerable when infected emails are sent to customers."



Allianz 
Suisse

**Smooth integration
into Groupware.** It is no surprise that the Swiss insurance

and finance service provider want's to play safe just as many other corporations do and obtains security from several anti-virus solutions for different levels of the IT topology. More specifically, the IT professionals of Allianz Suisse, opted for a multi-level anti-virus concept at the beginning of 2006, when they decided to eliminate their anti-virus gateway under UNIX. IT expert Spaltenstein: "The security solution we had was difficult to maintain and the anti-virus updates where not all that frequent". An iQ.Suite release update of the Eisenacher Group Technologies AG was a requirement that needed to be integrated into the new anti-virus package. The iQ.Suite is a solution designed for the email lifecycle management that is used to process, store and administer electronic messages according to the company specific business processes and legal regulations. The IT expert Spaltenstein: "The product should be integrated into our infrastructure and be user-friendly for our system administrators."

The security concept. These technical requirements favored changing the old anti-virus concept, bearing in mind the current system environment of the Swiss insurance company: Allianz Suisse relies on a groupware infrastructure based on Lotus Notes/ Domino developed together with the business partners IBM/Lotus and the consulting and reseller Advantix Groupware AG, Erlenbach, Switzerland. These include external email interfaces that were designed in two stages and that consist of an internal and an external gateway. The gateways are constructed redundantly, to ensure that the employee's email traffic is always safe. A third gateway line makes sure the digital communication is never interrupted, even

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if the computer center breaks down completely.

Avira - first fortress against digital intruders. The company from the European bank metropolis decided their requirements need to include the ability to have a double and threefold security strategy to protect the email traffic when selecting its anti-virus solutions. Sublime target for the security concept that was implemented in 2006: uninterrupted protection against viruses for servers through to employee's clients based on three security solutions. Allianz Suisse relies on Avira AntiVir to protect its servers being the first fortress against digital intruders from outside as well as scanning all outgoing emails. The manager of Allianz Suisse, Mr. Spaltenstein went for Avira because: "Avira AntiVir was up and running within a few days and the update mechanisms were easily defined." The integration of the security solutions into the iQ.Suite posed



Robert Spaltenstein
Allianz Switzerland

no problems to the IT professionals in Zürich. While Sophos was used as a backup scanner on servers and Symantec on workstation computers, "Avira trapped 99.6 percent of all incoming emails infected with viruses beforehand."

Leading in the detection of malware.

Avira's high detection rate was something that Allianz Suisse was aware from the very beginning of the project: "The major selection criteria included that it should come off well in the test reports", says the IT specialist Spaltenstein when referring to the selection process. The insurance company from Zürich obtained first-hand technical support from the IT security provider from Lake Constance, because of its geographic proximity. Last but not least, the smooth integration into the iQ.Suite and the trouble-free administration by the system administrators for Lotus Domino were the determining criteria to deploy the security package from Avira. Spaltenstein concludes: "The updates run automatically, the administration efforts are minimized to the search of logs." No surprise: a report about so called false positives - emails that were erroneously marked as infected - shows that there are still zero.

About Avira

Avira is a worldwide leading supplier of self-developed security solutions for professional and private use. With more than twenty years of experience, the company is one of the pioneers in this field.



The security expert has several locations in Germany and partnerships in Europe, Asia and America. At its headquarters in Tettngang near Lake Constance, Avira is one of the region's largest employers with more than 180 employees. Worldwide more than 250 persons are employed and their work regularly wins awards. Avira AntiVir Personal, used by millions of private users, represents a significant contribution to security.

Avira's national and international customers include renowned corporations listed on the stock exchange but also educational institutions and public authorities. In addition to protection of the virtual environment, Avira also provides for more protection and security in the real world by supporting the Auerbach Foundation. Established by the founder of the company, the Auerbach Foundation promotes charitable and social projects as well as the arts, culture and science.