Commerzbank protects its email communications with Avira’s AntiVir MailGate Linux

“Ideas ahead” is the slogan that expresses the philosophy of Commerzbank AG. Innovation and transparency for customers are essential prerequisites for the banking concern and they need to be reaffirmed on a daily basis. This philosophy is proving effective. The organisation reported total assets for last year of €420 billion, which makes it one of the leading commercial banks in Germany and Europe. Approximately 33,000 employees throughout the world are responsible for advising nearly 8 million private wealth and business clients in all aspects of the banking industry.

The key factor for the success of a bank is its clients’ trust. “In view of the increased risks arising from use of the Internet, a particular concern of ours is to ensure that our electronic communication channels with clients are equipped with the maximum degree of security”, explained Bernd Grönemann-Habenicht, who is in charge of the centralised service division at Commerzbank that goes by the name of Information Technology Production for Internet Services. For a financial institution that is permanently in the public eye, this constitutes a crucial competitive edge.

In an age in which virus attacks can be expected on a daily basis, comprehensive protection against malware needs to be guaranteed at all costs. For this reason, Commerzbank has been seeking out tools to round out its existing virus protection, specifically tools for Linux-based mail relay systems. In order to arrive at a solution for this, the IT executives at the bank analysed the software market in detail. “Several of the solutions on offer made it onto the short list” according to Mr. Gronemann-Habenicht. “These were then put through extensive stress tests in a specially designed test environment. We studied how the programs would react to various outbreaks of viruses. Another important factor for us was that the software should allow remote administration.”

The results of this testing phase led to a decision to select the solution marketed by Avira, the leader in the field of technology for UNIX security. AntiVir MailGate protects email traffic on Linux systems. Fully automatic virus checking ensures that no digital malware can infiltrate the IT structure. Incoming and outgoing emails plus any attachments are monitored in real time and any suspicious files are quarantined. Automatic updates, at intervals that can be as short as a few hours, ensure that the protection is always up to date.

“AntiVir MailGate has made one more contribution to providing even better security. The software responds to virus attacks at lightning speed, is highly stable and its price/performance ratio is excellent.”

Bernd Grönemann-Habenicht, Commerzbank AG
Avira – reliable, innovative, secure.
IT security expertise you can rely on.

- Germany’s one and only manufacturer of anti-virus software
- Solid, medium-sized company, founded in 1986 as H+BEDV Datentechnik GmbH and characterised by many years of above-average growth and sales success.
- Full-service security provider: solutions for any system and any type of requirement from a single source
- Application of the latest technology, two virus research centres of its own, Avira-Software Development
- Consistent quality management based on optimised procedures, innovative research, development and quality control.
- World leadership in technology for UNIX equipment plus a broad representation in the Windows segment.
- Professional support via a round-the-clock expert hotline
- Highly regarded by satisfied customers and partners

One of the key features of AntiVir MailGate Linux is that the program functions at high speed and is easy to configure. Mr. Gronemann-Habenicht declares himself highly satisfied with this software solution. “The implementation phase progressed in successive stages through the cascaded network and caused no problems at all.” The software was integrated into the system environment quickly and easily.

The banker praised the Tettnang-based company’s service. “The process of escalation, availability issues and the guaranteeing of response times during the process of implementing the solution, were all really good with Avira. Their service is flexible and fast. The team was committed and we felt that they really took care of us.

The reason Avira provides such special service was underlined by their security expert and acting managing director Gernot Hacker. “Customer satisfaction ranks alongside the performance of our product in having the utmost priority for us. For that reason, we have invested a great deal of time and energy in developing and implementing a service concept that is tailored to the needs of customers themselves.

Commerzbank has now been using Avira’s AntiVir product for more than a year with virtually no problems, as Mr. Gronemann-Habenicht explained. The manager is convinced that the decision to choose this security solution was the correct one. “The software responds to virus attacks at lightning speed and it is one of the most stable products I have come across. AntiVir MailGate has made one more contribution to providing even better security.”

Avira GmbH
Lindauer Str. 21 | D-88069 Tettnang | Germany
Telephone: +49 (0) 7542-500 0 | Fax: +49 (0) 7542-525 10
E-mail: info@avira.com | Internet: http://www.avira.com
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