Case Study: Perry Community School District

School district relies on Comodo’s security technology to contain and defeat unwanted malware

STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF SCHOOLS ARE VULNERABLE TO MALWARE ATTACKS

As malware has tried to become more and more pervasive, industries, business, non-profits and organizations of all sizes have needed to take steps to prevent network infection. Ensuring the protection of endpoint technology usage - from desktops to laptops, from smart phones to tablets – from the threat of a rogue email attachment or a malicious Trojan or virus has become paramount. The IT staff at Perry Community School District is front and center on fighting that exact battle, and keeping their IT infrastructure safe.

The City of Perry, Iowa is one of the oldest Midwest cities in the United States – first established in 1869 – approximately 25 miles northwest of Des Moines. As of the last U.S. Census, nearly 8,000 residents call Perry home – and more than 1,800 of those residents are students in the kindergarten through 12th grade Perry Community School District.

The school district’s IT staff was in need of a reliable security solution in a cost effective structure, to reduce the massive amounts of malware and spyware-serving websites currently being accessed by its student body. Nearly everyone in the district uses a desktop, laptop or mobile device to access school curriculums and school emails.

“We cannot be in control of every rogue email that a student unknowingly opens or an infected website link they click on a device issued by the school. Since we can’t control the email or the website, we wanted to find a solution that could control and protect the device and stop any malware, Trojan or virus from spreading,” said Rich Nichols, Director of Technology, Perry Community School District. “We needed to put the call out to all possible vendors and ask for an IT security solution that would focus on the prevention of rouge malware and bad websites from being accessed.”

Through a competitive review process, Perry’s IT Department reviewed the security technology from all the major vendors and selected Comodo and its Endpoint Security Manager (ESM) as the solution of choice.

The Comodo business and enterprise support team helped Perry’s IT department with the full rollout of ESM to ensure that deployment and configuration best practices were followed, for optimum results. The support team also showed Perry how it could use ESM as a system management tool to monitor computers and servers, and how to use ESM as a remote screen-sharing tool to assist its users without having to leave the desks of IT Operations – giving Perry the ability to accurately track all the computing hardware and software in their environment through ESM’s reporting functionality.

Since going live, Comodo ESM has been wiping out viruses and malware that its previous IT antivirus system failed to detect, as well as giving Perry the ability to offer a centralized management console for Perry’s IT team to use to manage, control and update any endpoints.
Comodo's patent-pending automatic containment technology eliminates malware outbreaks and operating system contamination by automatically running any untrusted application in a secure, contained environment on the user's PC or device, never subjecting the user to any known or unknown risk.

"We are thrilled with the endpoint security protection suite that Comodo provided for our IT environment," said Nichols. "Comodo Endpoint Security Management gives us peace of mind, where our students can freely take advantage of all the great technology we have in place to share and exchange information to improve themselves as students. Because we are now using Comodo and its containment technology, we are not at risk to have any of our school or student data exposed to cyber attacks, and that makes me and my team sleep easier at night."

Comodo's Endpoint Security Management software suite brings seven layers of defense (antivirus, firewall, web URL filtering, host intrusion prevention, automatic containment, file reputation, and virus scope [behavioral analyzer]) right to the point of impact—the desktop environment.

Through running Comodo ESM, there are now more computers available to students because the Perry IT staff no longer needs to have the computer's taken off the network for decontamination. The technology also empowers the faculty and support staff to be more productive due to increased availability of their protected computers and endpoints as well.

For IT administrators who want to prevent data breaches, infections and contain any Comodo endpoint security is the only solution that offers on-device, real-time containment. Unlike legacy approaches such as blacklisting and sandboxing, Comodo endpoint security uses smart filtering to automatically contain and execute unknown files, without negatively impacting the system performance or the user's productivity.

Learn more about Perry Community School District at http://www.perry.k12.ia.us/

Get more information on Comodo endpoint security solutions and other leading Comodo enterprise security technologies by contacting EnterpriseSolutions@comodo.com

About Comodo

The Comodo organization is a global innovator and developer of cybersecurity solutions, founded on the belief that every single digital transaction deserves and requires a unique layer of trust and security. Building on its deep history in SSL certificates, antivirus and endpoint security leadership, and true containment technology, individuals and enterprises rely on Comodo’s proven solutions to authenticate, validate and secure their most critical information. With data protection covering endpoint, network and mobile security, plus identity and access management, Comodo’s proprietary technologies help solve the malware and cyber-attack challenges of today. Securing online transactions for thousands of businesses, and with more than 85 million desktop security software installations, Comodo is Creating Trust Online®. With United States headquarters in Clifton, New Jersey, the Comodo organization has offices in China, India, the Philippines, Romania, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

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