



Hitachi gains clarity needed to create effective Internet use policies

Client

Hitachi Consulting, subsidiary of Hitachi Ltd.

- 1,500 Internet users
- Fortune 100, Global 100 clients
- Strategic technology, supply chain management company
- Seven international locations

Challenges

- Protecting confidential information
- Monitoring network traffic
- Defining Internet use policy
- Creating detailed reports
- Managing international locations

Cymphonix Solution Highlights

 **Clarity**

 **Control**

 **Cost**

Results

- Deep insight into network use
- Integration with Active Directory for reporting by user name
- Effective and balanced Internet use policy
- Easy installation and configuration
- Realistic views of online activity
- Internet use managed across three international locations
- Confidential information is secure

For three years Mike Shisko, director of information technology for Hitachi Consulting, searched for a solution that would give him complete visibility into the online activity of the firm's more than 1,500 Internet users across six international locations. His quest finally led him to Cymphonix® Network Composer®. The combination of deep monitoring capabilities and detailed, user-based reporting enabled Shisko and his team to create an effective Internet use policy and protect confidential information.

Trying and Trying Again

When Mike Shisko began researching network security solutions, he discovered that while many products offered useful and important insights, none seemed to offer the complete feature set he needed.

"During the initial evaluation of a security solution from a well-known vendor, we were surprised to learn how often employees accessed non-business related web sites," said Shisko. "Unfortunately, we quickly discovered the limitations of this product due to the fact that it only monitored Web traffic and lacked other management functionality. As a result, we began looking for an alternative solution."

His next choice provided Web filtering and gave the Hitachi Consulting team general visibility into the types of content his users were accessing. They learned that many were inappropriate for the workplace. This discovery was useful, but that particular solution fell short of their goal to implement a successful Internet use policy.

"We approached human resources with the basic reports, and it was then that we knew we needed a true Web filtering device to integrate a more stringent Internet policy and prevent this activity from occurring on our network," said Shisko.

The discovery of inappropriate surfing activity heightened the urgency to find a solution. The Hitachi Consulting team began evaluating several content filtering devices.

"I found each product could do certain things well, but none of them had all the capabilities we needed," explained Shisko. "For example, Websense provided detailed reporting, but was more difficult to configure for blocking or re-directing inappropriate traffic. We found Barracuda's reporting to be weak because it couldn't correlate user data, and Blue Coat's proxy setup and reporting was cumbersome. We needed a device that was easy to install, provided detailed reporting, and could be both accessed and navigated simply."



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Perseverance Pays Off

After significant research on content filtering products, Hitachi Consulting was introduced to Cymphonix Network Composer.

“Cymphonix Network Composer had all the features we needed in a single, competitively priced appliance. We loved the product’s reporting suite and because it sits inline within our network. We found integration and configuration was straight forward and easy to complete,” said Shisko.

“Network Composer is integrated with Active Directory and can give me reports based on user name instead of IP address,” he continued. “With this, I can review the bandwidth individuals are using, how much time they spend online, and which Web sites they visit. Moreover, with this solution, I can even double correlate data to get detailed insight into how our network is used. Having this information readily available gives a more realistic snapshot of online activity, which has helped us develop more appropriate Internet use guidelines.”

The Results Are In

Hitachi Consulting has initially deployed one Network Composer and has since installed a second appliance at their headquarters. They intend to have the Internet activity of all US based users managed from this central location. Hitachi Consulting has also installed similar devices in its London, England and India offices.

“With Cymphonix Network Composer, we can finally refine our Internet use policy,” said Shisko. “The information and insight we’ve gained from Network Composer have been invaluable and because of this, we’ve been able to achieve a balanced policy that our users will willingly adopt.”



Cymphonix C5

Network Composer from Cymphonix is a content filtering, application control & prioritization, and bandwidth management appliance that helps organizations better manage their internet resources. Here’s how:

-  **CLARITY** Get the right data and make informed and effective decisions
-  **CONGESTION** Prioritize applications and traffic by what is most important
-  **CONTROL** Toss out “block/allow” and dial in on users, applications, and content
-  **COMPLIANCE** Enforce, maintain, and report on policies that keep you aligned
-  **COST** Save time and dollars with a single, integrated solution

See for Yourself

See how Cymphonix can improve visibility, security, and efficiency of your Internet connection. Contact your local technology reseller or Cymphonix for an online demonstration, technical documentation, case studies and pricing.

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