

NSW Department of Commerce, jobs.nsw

GOVERNMENT

The jobs.nsw recruitment website is used by government agencies in New South Wales for posting vacancies and downloading job applications. Candidates apply online and can attach documents to support their application, increasing the danger of viruses and other malware infecting government IT systems. SAV Interface™ was chosen to integrate with the website to counteract the threat of infection.

Key facts

Organisation

NSW Department of Commerce

Location

New South Wales, Australia

Application

jobs.nsw website

Environment

Windows

Solution

SAV Interface

The screenshot shows the jobs.nsw website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Graduate Recruitment, How to Apply, Working in NSW Govt, Common Selection Criteria, and Traineeships. Below this is a search bar with fields for user name and password, and a Login button. The main content area is titled 'Welcome to jobs.nsw' and features a 'Job Search' section with various filters: Location, City/Town/Suburb, Job Category, Salary Range, Agency Name, Division Name, Job Title, Employment Status, Vacancy Ref, and Keywords. A job listing for 'Sydney Buses' is displayed, featuring a photo of two people and the text 'Exciting opportunity for graduates to start a career in Transport Management'. The footer contains copyright information for 2002 - NSW Department of Commerce and links for ServiceNSW, Feedback, Links, and Disclaimer.

Business challenge

The official recruitment website for the state government of New South Wales, jobs.nsw, was commissioned by the Department of Commerce to streamline the recruitment process for all state government agencies.

The website, which was jointly developed by the Department of Commerce and systems integrator KAZ Technology Services, went live in 2000. It now

features a minimum of 350 job vacancies from more than 117 government agencies. More than 6,000 candidates upload their applications and 180,000 individual visitors browse the website every month.

The ability for candidates to upload files direct to the jobs.nsw server is a key feature of the website. However, with such open functionality, virus-infected files

“Using SAV Interface has added value to our innovative service, allowing us to protect many government networks from virus infection.”

Anne Gillespie, jobs.nsw, NSW Department of Commerce

represent a significant risk to the multiple government IT networks to which the jobs.nsw server connects. This is exacerbated by network-aware viruses, which can spread across whole networks if downloaded in a candidate's application.

The challenge for the Department of Commerce and KAZ Technology Services was to integrate real-time anti-virus protection into the jobs.nsw application that would not slow the performance of the website's services.

Technology solution

SAV Interface enables users of a wide range of stand-alone industry-standard applications to benefit from high-speed integration with Sophos's award-winning anti-virus engine. Following an evaluation of several anti-virus vendors, SAV Interface was found to provide the most comprehensive and flexible protection for jobs.nsw.

The jobs.nsw application is built on Windows 2000 using Visual Basic and stores information in a SQL database. The SAV Interface software developer's kit was used to develop a dynamic link from the jobs.nsw application to the Sophos anti-virus engine. The integration was very straightforward and took less than three days.

When candidates upload their application to jobs.nsw, Sophos automatically scans the file in real time to protect against malicious or infected files before the document is stored in the database. If a virus is detected, the file is deleted and the candidate is immediately advised that the document contained a virus, and that a clean version should be submitted. Every virus incident is also automatically reported to the system administrator, making day-to-day management even easier.



Bob Carr, ex-New South Wales Premier, officially launches jobs.nsw

Since its launch, jobs.nsw has evolved significantly. The website has boosted its protection using Sophos EM Library™, which updates the virus detection files in the Sophos anti-virus engine automatically every hour. As with all Sophos customers, the NSW Department of Commerce has 24-hour access to Sophos technical support via telephone, email and online knowledgebase and software updates are automatically downloaded and applied to the jobs.nsw application.

Business results

Anne Gillespie, the administrator of jobs.nsw, has been instrumental in establishing the website as a key resource for state government recruitment services. She says, "jobs.nsw makes the whole recruitment process much more efficient and provides government agencies with considerable benefits and budget savings."

Gillespie continues, "Sophos has proven itself time and again to jobs.nsw by maintaining faultless protection against virus infection. Sophos continues to add great value to our innovative service and provides the government with confidence that IT networks are protected from infection at all times."

The jobs.nsw service continues to grow and Gillespie estimates that up to 300 government agencies will shortly be using the service. She comments, "The integration of the Sophos technology in the jobs.nsw application means that all departments using the website can seamlessly protect their networks from threats."

Gillespie concludes, "Sophos is a vital component of jobs.nsw. The protection afforded by the Sophos anti-virus engine provides government agencies with peace of mind and the confidence to expand their use of the jobs.nsw service."

To find out how Sophos products can help protect your organisation, visit www.sophos.com/products