

## Equinix

## INTERNET

Equinix is a leading global provider of network-neutral data centres and internet exchange services. Continually striving to add value for its customers, Equinix Singapore was looking for an integrated anti-virus and anti-spam solution to protect users of its enterprise mail services. The company chose Sophos PureMessage® because of its flexibility and high degree of accuracy.

### Key facts

**Organisation**

Equinix

**Location**

Singapore

**No of mailboxes**

12,000

**Servers**

Linux Red Hat Enterprise

**Solution**

PureMessage for UNIX



## Business challenge

Equinix is a leading global provider of network-neutral data centres and internet exchange services, with 14 network-rich hubs located in strategic internet regions in the United States and Asia Pacific. These Equinix Internet Business Exchange™ (IBX®) centres serve as core hubs for critical IP networks, giving access to providers serving over 90 percent of the world's internet networks and users.

The performance and growth of the internet depends critically on these interconnection

points, which serve as neutral and open marketplaces for internet infrastructure services. This allows enterprises, content companies, systems integrators and network services providers to expand their businesses while reducing costs.

Many well-known companies rely on Equinix as their outsourced IT infrastructure partner to support their online content and enterprise businesses – including IBM, Google, Sony Online, Yahoo! and Microsoft.

*“Sophos PureMessage goes a long way to helping us add value to our services.”*

*Sim Thiam Chye, Director of Operations, Equinix Singapore*

The headquarters of the company's Asia Pacific operation is in Singapore, where Equinix hosts enterprise mail services with 12,000 mailboxes. To maintain its competitive edge, Equinix is continuously seeking solutions that will add value to its managed services. With the recent rapid growth of virus attacks and spam, the company decided to re-evaluate its anti-virus and anti-spam provisions.

According to Sim Thiam Chye, director of operations at Equinix Singapore, the company wanted a combined anti-virus and anti-spam solution that would provide a high degree of accuracy in identifying spam, eliminating the time spent manually sorting the false positives in quarantined email. He says, "We conducted a back-to-back evaluation of Sophos PureMessage and a product from our current anti-virus supplier. We needed something that is powerful and flexible enough to adapt to the ever-changing techniques used by spammers."

## Technology solution

After a month monitoring and gauging the performance of the two solutions, Equinix chose PureMessage because of its flexibility and accuracy in identifying spam. Equinix was also attracted by Sophos's award-winning anti-virus technology which scans all mail at the gateway, protecting the entire organisation from email-borne viruses, Trojans, worms and spyware. Sim comments, "I particularly like the tight integration of the anti-virus engine with PureMessage's



anti-spam technology. This increases the efficiency and effectiveness of removing unsolicited and unsafe emails."

Depending on users' preferences, PureMessage filtering options can be varied from a simple "tag-and-pass" – whereby messages are tagged with a probability of being spam – to quarantine, archive or delete. As a service provider, Equinix is concerned that customers do not receive mail containing viruses, and are able to see at a glance any messages suspected of being spam. It chooses to tag only those messages that have a spam probability greater than 80 percent, letting end users decide whether to open or delete them. Users can fine tune their filtering policy using PureMessage's web-based user interface, adding any legitimate senders to their allow lists and adjusting their personal filtering preferences.

Administrators can monitor user behaviour and fine tune overall filtering policy to improve the accuracy of spam identification. PureMessage Policy Manager is a powerful and flexible web-based interface for managing and testing the overall filtering policy, including specifying the behaviour and order of rules and actions applied to messages. Sim explains, "This is a boon to mail administrators. They can easily define filtering policy specific to a certain domain. This flexibility encourages a low level of false positives and therefore a high accuracy in identifying spam."

## Business results

All enterprise mail services running in Equinix Singapore are being protected by PureMessage. The software is installed on four Linux machines running Red Hat Enterprise Server 3.0, protecting the SMTP gateway and Lotus Notes email servers.

Summing up the benefits to Equinix customers, Sim says, "PureMessage's flexible configuration options allow us to define various spam identification and handling policies that are unique to each customer. This goes a long way to helping us add value to our services."

To find out how Sophos products can help protect your organisation, visit [www.sophos.com/products](http://www.sophos.com/products)