

Case Study



SIXTH FORM COLLEGE SAVES OVER £10,000 BY UNIFYING NETWORK SECURITY WITH LIGHTSPEED

Havering Sixth Form College has implemented Total Traffic Control to improve the management of its networks and reduce IT security costs

The College

Essex based Havering Sixth Form College has implemented Total Traffic Control (TTC) from Lightspeed Systems to unify its network security solutions and provide a comprehensive view of activity across the IT infrastructure. This has resulted in both a reduction in network management activity and a direct saving of over £10,000.

Schools, colleges and universities are becoming increasingly reliant on IT but as a consequence they are spending an escalating amount of time and money on security solutions to protect both the students and the institution from a number of threats including viruses, spam and unsuitable web content.

The Challenge

Historically, Havering Sixth Form College has addressed these threats by using a range of disparate security solutions from a number of different suppliers. However, since opening in 2001, the college has doubled in size to over 2000 students and found that these different solutions were becoming costly to operate and very difficult to manage.

The Solution

Pat McConalogue, Head of IT at Havering Sixth Form College, comments, "With the use of disparate, incompatible solutions, we could not get a clear view of network activity. Each summary report was presented in a different format and would often be limited in the

information it provided, extra work was then required by the IT team to interpret and correlate this data. Furthermore, using a number of different solutions was proving to be unnecessarily expensive. TTC has enabled us to save not only a huge amount of man hours across the IT team but an estimated £10,000 by consolidating products."

The Benefits

Since deploying TTC, Havering has already gained an invaluable insight into its network activity. The College found that over 80% of its past email was spam which is now blocked by TTC. This discovery alone has freed up a significant amount of the IT staff's time and enables them to focus on more strategic work. Neil Siveter, Senior IT Technician at Havering Sixth Form College, confirms, "TTC now provides a number of comprehensive reports detailing the amount of spam and viruses it has blocked and detected, this now gives us a full view of the network activity from a single source."

Earnie Kramer, Managing Director of Lightspeed Systems Europe, concludes, "Despite an escalating year-on-year spend on security products, breaches and incidents continue to increase. As organisations create a highly complex infrastructure of point security solutions, they are in danger of losing control. The simple solution is to combine monitoring and control with a single view of network security. This can deliver up to 30% reduction in annual security spend as well as improving security and control."