

CSG Calls in Network Defence to Upgrade its Network, Protect its Assets and Encourage Business Growth

“Network Defence has been our preferred partner for all IT and security consultancy work for a number of years. They continue to meet and exceed our expectations, installing and maintaining the system. The engineers have been extremely responsive and committed during installation, always on hand with support and training. They really pull out all the stops.”

Stuart Hansord, IT Systems Manager, Consultant Services Group (CSG)

Key Benefits:

- Protection for CGS's IT System
- Secure site-to-site VPN solution
- Greater business efficiency
- Reducing security risk

The Challenge:

Yorkshire-based Consultant Services Group (CSG) is a leading provider of food and beverage and cleaning and environmental services, with around 4,000 staff and over 2,500 clients.

CSG required a systems upgrade to cope with company growth and new business. The upgrade involved enhancing wide area network security, a systems migration to Windows 2003 and an upgrade of the existing security systems by integrating web and email content filtering and virus scanning.

The Solution:

CSG has completed a comprehensive upgrade of its network infrastructure with the help of IT and Network Security Consultants, Network Defence, who were called in to design and implement the complete network upgrade, restructuring and migration.

The WAN upgrade involved deploying WatchGuard X Series Firewalls to enhance security and performance. Network Defence installed the

WatchGuard *Firebox X2500* at the company's main office in Heckmondwike and the *X500* at its regional headquarters in Gateshead.

All email and internet access for both offices is delivered through head office and is protected by NetIQ's Mail- and WebMarshal, also implemented as part of the upgrade.

CSG is working towards full accreditation from FAST, the Federation Against Software Theft, and the upgrade is an important part of meeting accreditation requirements.

Network Defence also upgraded the group's network operating systems, email server and office applications, migrating the existing systems from *Windows 2000* to *Windows 2003* versions.

The benefits:

The upgrade implemented by IT and Network Security Consultants Network Defence, has provided valuable protection for the IT system and can cope with increased business usage.

The WatchGuard firewalls provide a secure site-to-site VPN solution between Heckmondwike and Gateshead. Users at Gateshead can now access applications and information from head office quickly and securely, ensuring greater business efficiency and the ability to handle an increased business flow both now and in the future.

The solution enables CSG to manage and apply internet security policies company-wide, maximising bandwidth availability and reducing security risks.

Stuart Hansord, IT Systems Manager at CSG, said: "The system is a lot more reliable and easier to manage now allowing us to operate more effectively.

The web and email content filtering and virus scanning have helped us to protect our IT system, our staff and our organisation.”

Technologies Used:

- Perimeter Security
- Network Infrastructure
- Web & Email Security
- Mobile Working & VPN