

There are no limitations on the threats entering the enterprise in email messages, but there are tools to protect network systems, says Peter Stephenson.

This category covers protection of the enterprise from things that can ride an email message into your enterprise. Arguably, there are only two ways into a secure enterprise from the outside: email and web services. We control web services through secure programming and good architec-

tures. We control email by forcing it through gateways that look for things that could harm us.

There are no limitations on the threats that could enter the enterprise in an email. So the issue becomes how many email-borne threat classes can a gateway catch. And, equally important, what will

be the overall impact on the network's performance?

We saw one overriding characteristic this month: more is more. These products expected everything but the kitchen sink to be thrown at them, and they usually have the means necessary to protect against just about any type of email threat.

Policy Patrol Enterprise



Vendor Red Earth Software
Price \$395 (10 users)
Contact www.redearthsoftware.com

Red Earth Policy Patrol Enterprise is a feature rich product that can be installed directly onto the mail server. It features content checking and management, attachment checking, spam and phishing detection and optional anti-virus. The Policy Patrol tool can also seamlessly add company disclaimers and signatures to outbound email and manage email archiving and compression.

This product is a straightforward software install, however, it does require access to an SQL Server database for archiving and reporting capabilities. If an SQL database is

not available, one must be configured prior to installation. Setup is guided by an easy-to-follow wizard, which in a few steps helps configure most initial settings. After the installation is complete, management is done through the management console application. This application uses a simple, intuitive tree structure for navigation.

Policy configuration is done in the rule section of the management console. This section includes three subsections: enterprise rules, disclaimer rules and compression rules. Each of these sections have their own subsection. The enterprise rules section is where content and attachment rules can be setup.

This product comes with a quick-start guide and a full manual. The quick-start guide provides a large amount of detail on possible deployment options, installation and initial configuration. The manual gives a more in-depth look at product features and advance configurations. Both of these guides include many screen shots and examples.

Technical support is offered free of charge for the first 30 days. After that, a valid maintenance contract is

required to receive technical support. Maintenance also includes free product upgrades. Support includes both phone and email support, as well as self-support available on the website in the form of a knowledge base and product documentation.

We find this product to be a good value for the money. With a price tag starting at almost \$400 for 10 users, this can become a pricey investment for larger environments. However, it does offer some very comprehensive features and is easy to administer.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Performance	★★★★☆
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★☆
OVERALL RATING	★★★★★
Strengths	Expansive feature set and comprehensive filtering and protection.
Weaknesses	Does require other resources, such as an SQL Server.
Verdict	This tool is full of useful features, but to work it requires some external support products, such as SQL Server.



Expansive feature set and comprehensive filtering and protection.

Peter Stephenson

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