⊘alwarebytes

CASE STUDY

Canterbury League Club and Bulldogs maul cyberthreats

Malwarebytes stops attacks on servers for superior protection and performance

Business profile

The Canterbury Bulldogs are an Australian professional rugby league football club based at the Canterbury League Club in Belmore, a suburb of Sydney. Bulldogs fans can subscribe to a number of membership packages and enjoy the amenities of the Canterbury League Club while they cheer on their team. To deliver an outstanding fan experience, the facility relies on Malwarebytes to prevent disruption by ransomware.

Business challenge

Tackling threats head on

The Canterbury League Club offers a range of dining and entertainment amenities. Members have access to a health club, live entertainment, squash courts, restaurants and bars, sports screens, and special event rooms. The Club relies on its PCs for everything from membership to financial, marketing, and administrative functions. Additional systems handle similar functions for the Bulldogs football club.

The Club originally used an AVG antivirus solution. Over time, malware and other advanced threats successfully evaded the antivirus product and infected Club and team systems. The AVG server was prone to becoming corrupted, forcing the IT team to completely reinstall the software. In addition, antivirus software would not update correctly across all workstations, leaving some without updated protection. When business-critical Club applications were updated, the antivirus product identified the application as a threat and disrupted operations. The final blow came when ransomware entered the network and infected a server.

"We needed a better solution for detecting exploits, connection-based attacks, and other forms of advanced

OVERVIEW

INDUSTRY Sports/Entertainment

BUSINESS CHALLENGE Prevent business disruption caused by advanced cyberthreats

IT ENVIRONMENT Windows Defender, firewalls

SOLUTION Malwarebytes Endpoint Protection

RESULTS

Prevented future ransomware attacks and removed artifacts from previous attacks

Stopped attacks on servers from malicious IP addresses

Simplified endpoint security administration with automated remediation and policy application

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MALWAREBYTES' EFFECTIVENESS AND EASE OF USE HAVE BEEN A REVELATION. I DON'T HAVE TO INVESTIGATE EVERY THREAT OR INSTALL THE SOFTWARE ON NEW SYSTEMS. MALWAREBYTES DOES IT ALL AND PROTECTS EVERYTHING STRAIGHTAWAY.

RHYS WOLLOGHAN, IT MANAGER, CANTERBURY LEAGUE CLUB

threats," said Rhys Wolloghan, IT Manager for the Canterbury League Club. "With prior knowledge of Malwarebytes, I initiated a trial of the product."

The solution

Malwarebytes Endpoint Protection

The team implemented Malwarebytes Endpoint Protection on a handful of machines and it immediately detected malware that the antivirus product had missed. By combining advanced malware detection and remediation technologies, Malwarebytes delivers multi-stage attack protection to stop attackers at every step.

"Malwarebytes detected all bits and pieces of malware dwelling on systems and defended our servers against malicious websites during the trial," said Wolloghan. "It protects as advertised, and that's been fantastic."

The team completely replaced AVG and gained additional protection with Malwarebytes. They first deployed Malwarebytes to the Club's servers and then rolled it out to the hundreds of Club and Bulldogs' workstations. More than 80 applications running in-house are now protected at the server level and from threats trying to enter the network through workstations.

A revelation

"Straightaway, we picked up thousands of infections," said Wolloghan. "Not all were immediately critical, but many were things like exploits that could dwell undetected on a system and open the door to a future attack. Now we can block them. Malwarebytes' effectiveness and ease of use have been a revelation."

Malwarebytes has stopped attacks on the Club's servers from threats on malicious websites. When it detects dangerous websites and malicious IP

addresses, it notifies the IT team. They check the Malwarebytes cloud console each morning to see what has been detected. When they find IP addresses that have been blocked on servers, they add those IP addresses to the firewall's denial policy to stop them even earlier.

"Without Malwarebytes, we wouldn't have known that these IP addresses were getting through," said Wolloghan. "Malwarebytes appears to have an even larger database of malicious IPs than our firewall, giving us more protection. Attacks on servers have been stopped."

A straight run to the goal

Malwarebytes has automated policy application and remediation capabilities, relieving the IT team from having to do everything manually as they did in the past with AVG. They no longer have to maintain a server onsite or physically manage endpoint security on workstations. When Malwarebytes detects a threat, it is immediately quarantined. The team can see everything and remediate endpoints from the cloud console. When systems are added to the company's domain, Malwarebytes software is automatically loaded and policies are applied.

"The cloud dashboard is clean and simple to use," said Wolloghan. "We don't have to investigate every threat or install the software on new systems. Malwarebytes does it all and protects everything straightaway. Administrative ease of use is a fantastic feature."

"I'm on call 24/7," he continued. "Since deploying Malwarebytes, I've had no calls in the middle of the night about attacks on servers. I sleep better because I know we're protected, and I can't say 'thank you' enough."

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Malwarebytes is a cybersecurity company that millions worldwide trust. Malwarebytes proactively protects people and businesses against malicious threats, including ransomware, that traditional antivirus solutions miss. The company's flagship product uses signature-less technologies to detect and stop a cyberattack before damage occurs. Learn more at <u>www.malwarebytes.com</u>.

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