

From Strength to Strength: Forrester Selects McAfee as an Industry Leader in Two Wave Reports: Email Filtering and Web Filtering

As email and web applications dominate enterprise infrastructure, more companies are wondering how to ensure appropriate use and reduce the risk of malicious content. Two new reports issued by Forrester Research, Inc., discuss the market trends, client demands, and the strong offering and market strategy that distinguish McAfee® products for web and email filtering. The McAfee acquisition of Secure Computing coincided with these evaluations.

The twin reports examined the performance of the McAfee products (acquired through Secure Computing) against ten other vendors and extensive criteria that reflected customer interviews and end-user inquiries. These detailed evaluations concluded that McAfee is a market leader in both web and email filtering, ranking ahead of the field in critical areas such as filtering functionality, reputation research, customer satisfaction, and go-to-market partnerships.¹

Beyond examining the products as they exist today, the reports bring valuable market perspective on the features and characteristics that will matter going forward, as Web 2.0, compliance, cost-cutting, and mobile workforces require IT organizations to optimize their security infrastructure. These are critical considerations as IT struggles to reduce costs while addressing the demands of the business.

The Forrester Wave: Web Filtering, Q2 2009

According to the April 2009 web filtering report, McAfee Secure Web Webwasher appliance, now branded the McAfee Web Gateway, “edged out Websense to receive the highest score on the technology portion of the evaluation, thanks to its innovative Web reputation technology, high-performing appliance, and reasonable per-user pricing.” It “scored well in many aspects, especially its TrustedSource™ reputation system, data analysis capability, and enterprise management. [McAfee Web Gateway] uses a master-slave architecture to provide scalability and central management in a distributed setting. Its throughput and scalability performance are among the best in this evaluation.”

McAfee TrustedSource reputation technology was highlighted as evidence of thought leadership, standing as “one of the best in the industry, comprising innovative distributed processing and data correlation technologies. [McAfee Web Gateway] also offers excellent enterprise management support, including user directory integration, comprehensive reporting, and highly customizable policy management.”²

The Forrester Wave: Email Filtering, Q2 2009

In research concluded in October 2008, Forrester named McAfee/Secure Computing a market leader that “excels at offering a well-rounded appliance option, with solid functionality in almost every category.” As with the Web Filtering report, Forrester highlighted the value of TrustedSource, calling it “one of the best email reputation systems.”

Both reports emphasize the increasing role of integrated data loss prevention (DLP), and this study indicated that the former Secure Mail product, now known as McAfee Email Gateway, “has one of the best built-in light DLP solutions, complete with a sophisticated statistical analysis engine to detect and analyze similar documents. In addition, [McAfee Email Gateway] has great connection management capabilities and is easy to deploy, and customers cite excellent appliance reliability numbers. The product also provides an easy-to-use dashboard and has full support for delegated administration. [McAfee Email Gateway] comes with a reasonable per-user price tag, making it an attractive choice for enterprises and SMBs alike.”³

Beyond Static Email and Web Filtering with McAfee Global Threat Intelligence

The Forrester Web Filtering report commented that “Secure’s antimalware technology includes licensed engines from McAfee and Sophos, as well as its own behavioral and heuristics detection engine geared specifically for Web malware.”⁴

The McAfee acquisition of Secure Computing enhances this protection. McAfee is synthesizing

1. The reports evaluated the server, software, and software-as-a-service products that are now part of the McAfee network security portfolio after McAfee’s December 2008 acquisition of Secure Computing.

2. *The Forrester Wave™: Web Filtering, Q2 2009*, Chenxi Wang, Ph.D., with Robert Whiteley and Allison Herald, April 16, 2009.

3. *The Forrester Wave: Email Filtering, Q2 2009*, Chenxi Wang, Ph.D., with Robert Whiteley and Allison Herald, April 16, 2009.

4. *The Forrester Wave: Web Filtering, Q2 2009*, op.cit.

these anti-malware engines as it integrates TrustedSource and its researchers with the SiteAdvisor technology and the multi-disciplinary research team at McAfee Avert® Labs.

In addition to malware and content analysis, Avert experts constantly evaluate vulnerabilities, attacks, compliance requirements, and social engineering techniques. Through collaboration across these extensive research programs, McAfee is able to generate global threat intelligence that encompasses cross-protocol threats.

As Forrester noted, “[McAfee] Web and Mail are integrated by nature of TrustedSource and [McAfee’s] threat labs. Knowledge of threats in both applications is shared to benefit the calculation of Web and IP reputations. Malware detected by [McAfee] Web is also communicated back to [McAfee Avert] Labs by TrustedSource, and Web reputation can immediately be modified accordingly.”⁵ This rich, dynamic assessment allows McAfee products to anticipate new risks and shield customers from compromised content and unknown threats.

Better Management and Cost Controls with McAfee ePO

Forrester liked the data analysis and enterprise management tools of the existing web filtering product and predicted upside for email customers as a result of McAfee’s acquisition of Secure Computing. “Being part of the McAfee product family has many advantages for Secure Mail, such as integration with McAfee’s [ePolicy Orchestrator®] framework and access to McAfee’s vast partner and reseller network.”⁶

McAfee ePolicy Orchestrator (ePO™) provides a unified policy-based management environment with customizable dashboards where users aggregate, monitor, and drill down into events. Integrated reporting with extensive compliance templates helps ePO customers speed through audit processes and reduce manual tasks. By integrating management, monitoring, and reporting activities across protections from McAfee and third parties, customers are able to cut operational costs, streamline compliance, and improve incident response. These operational savings free personnel to work on other business-critical projects.

Advantages of Hybrid Models and Cloud Computing

In both reports, Forrester emphasized the accelerating use of hybrid models and Software-as-a-Service. Compared to software-only solutions, appliances help companies cut implementation and maintenance costs in support of cost-cutting initiatives. Cloud-based services complement these efficiencies with convenient filtering for remote and mobile workers. “In the longer term, when email SaaS becomes more universally deployed, Web filtering SaaS will become more attractive because you will be able to retrieve your email and Web reports from one place—the cloud. In the meantime, however, we think the hybrid approach holds much promise and may even eclipse the growth of pure SaaS for Web filtering.”⁷

Move to Stronger Protections Today

See for yourself how McAfee’s dedication to security pays off in strong products and a strong strategy. Download the reports at:

- http://mcafee.com/us/local_content/reports/forrester_email_filtering_wave_q2_09.pdf
- http://mcafee.com/us/local_content/reports/forrester_wave_web_filtering_q2_09.pdf

Forrester clients may access the detailed evaluation spreadsheets through the Forrester client portal. For more information on these truly industry-leading products and related Software-as-a-Service offerings, contact your McAfee sales representative or look online at www.mcafee.com.

About McAfee, Inc.

McAfee, Inc., headquartered in Santa Clara, California, is the world’s largest dedicated security technology company. McAfee is committed to relentlessly tackling the world’s toughest security challenges. The company delivers proactive and proven solutions and services that help secure systems and networks around the world, allowing users to safely connect to the Internet, browse and shop the web more securely. Backed by an award-winning research team, McAfee creates innovative products that empower home users, businesses, the public sector and service providers by enabling them to prove compliance with regulations, protect data, prevent disruptions, identify vulnerabilities, and continuously monitor and improve their security. <http://www.mcafee.com>.



5. *The Forrester Wave: Content Security Suites, Q2 2009*. Chenxi Wang, Ph.D., with Robert Whiteley and Allison Herald, April 16, 2009.

6. *The Forrester Wave: Email Filtering, Q2 2009*, op.cit.

7. *The Forrester Wave: Web Filtering, Q2 2009*, op.cit.