

Feedback (April 2008)

**After acquiring the SecurActive NSS-100 solution in October 2007, Cyril Vigreux explains the important role it plays in the day-to-day administration of his network.**



**Cyril Vigreux,**

Responsible for user support,  
CGE Distribution

*“Without SecurActive, a network administrator exposes his network and takes unnecessary risks.”*

**RL: What were your reasons for buying the SecurActive NSS solution?**

CV: The CGE Distribution network brings together some 150 agencies spread out all over France. Each agency is directly linked to Paris headquarters via ADSL links at 512 kb/s. We noticed that there was network congestion in some of our remote sites. This congestion is a major problem for us because our system relies on real time flow exchanges (to facilitate purchase orders, deliveries, etc) that enable us to fulfill our delivery commitments to clients within the next business day. So the least amount of any congestion on our links means late deliveries - hence affecting our productivity! It became crucial for us to be able to immediately detect defective links, volumetry, and the type of applications in use within our strategic links.

As soon as the initial utilisation of SecurActive was completed, we were able to identify those areas on our network that were congested; more particularly, we were able to view and access specific volumetry that was being transmitted on our links (flow, services, ports). These elements enabled us to optimise our network architecture.

**What are some of the ways you use SecurActive NSS?**

We use SecurActive primarily for prevention purposes; that is, to detect suspicious behaviour or patterns on our network. Our system was recently infected by a worm so we had to find out immediately which machines were infected in order to rapidly prevent the spread of this worm. The security display recommended by SecurActive

enabled us to quickly and easily identify the hostile machines and to solve this problem.

**Who among your team members use SecurActive?**

I check the SecurActive NSS-100 solution once a day to ensure that nothing abnormal is happening or has happened in the last 24 hours, again for the sake of prevention. When I notice that my network's response time is abnormal or irregular, I also check the SecurActive solution to immediately identify the cause and source of the problem.

**After using the SecurActive NSS solution for 8 months now, how would you assess it?**

Today, SecurActive NSS is totally indispensable for the day-to-day administration of my network. After optimising the entire CGE Distribution network, thanks to the data that SecurActive NSS provides, we shall now use SecurActive as a prevention tool or as a means to carry out capacity planning. In fact, SecurActive NSS recently showed that our Internet connection was congested day and night not only because of abusive non-professional use but also because of regular software updates for Java and Adobe on 2000 of our workstations. This problem creates substantial traffic and affects our productivity directly.

Thanks to the data provided by the SecurActive NSS solution, I was able to explain the major impact of this problem to my managers. We are now performing an audit with our systems integrator to decide on the best solution to our problem.

RL

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