

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Solutions Snapshot

ARCHITECTURAL MODERNIZATION

Like all modern businesses, financial services companies rely heavily on e-mail for their communications needs; they must ensure that their messaging is reliable and secure. Unreliable or unsecure email is simply not acceptable for any company, and this creates an unavoidable level of complexity for any email infrastructure. But companies in the financial services sector also have to comply with additional regulatory obligations. And, because of the sensitive nature of their business, financial services firms have an especially acute need to guarantee the privacy and security of their messaging. All these demands often result in unnecessarily complex messaging infrastructures that not only decrease efficiency, reliability and security but increase operating expenses and maintenance costs.



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For example, a large international finance company found itself facing several problems that were brought on by these conflicting demands. Their messaging infrastructure was composed of several vendors and four inefficient layers. Because of this patched-together infrastructure, the costs for maintenance and support of the various systems and vendors were rising and the messaging team's ability to respond to problems and add or change applications within the bloated infrastructure was decreasing. They turned to Sendmail to assess, completely rethink and modernize their messaging infrastructure. Sendmail's messaging architects modernized and consolidated the company's infrastructure in remarkable ways. Most notably, Sendmail's Sentrion Message Processing Appliances replaced nearly a hundred servers from other vendors, nearly halving the total number of hardware servers. The flexibility of Sentrion's policy engine also allowed the company to collapse the number of layers that comprised their messaging infrastructure, from four to only two. But even with this dramatic reduction of servers and infrastructure layers, Sendmail was able to provide increased functionality as well as an unprecedented redundancy for the company's messaging capability. Two physically separate systems were deployed, allowing for continuous, mission-critical messaging even in the event of one system crashing.

This case study shows that a significant investment in a long-term IT strategy can result in a two-fold Return on Investment (ROI). The company now enjoys not only an improved architecture, increased efficiency, functionality, and redundancy but also healthy savings in overhead, maintenance, technical support, and power consumption. And the flexibility of the infrastructure's Sentrion messaging backbone means that the company will be able to add a number of applications should the need arise without piling on layer after layer.

ABOUT SENDMAIL

Sendmail provides appliance-based products, applications and services that enable enterprises and government agencies to modernize their messaging infrastructures. Since 1982, thousands of commercial and open source customers around the globe have relied on Sendmail for a unified approach to the complex problems of policy-based message handling and routing. The company's comprehensive suite of applications addresses the challenges of gateway management, inbound threat protection, data leak prevention, email authentication and intra-company message management. These applications run on Sendmail's family of Sentrion® Message Processors, which are available in hard appliance, virtual appliance and blade server configurations. Sendmail is headquartered in Emeryville, CA with sales and support offices throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

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