

Reduce business risk with Mimecast's data leak prevention solution

Mimecast's comprehensive email data leak prevention solution gives you the control and flexibility you need to reduce business risk

Business needs

An organization's value and competitive advantage are inextricably linked to the knowledge it holds. Information such as new product ideas, future business plans and customer data represents an invaluable business asset. When stored digitally, that asset becomes even more beneficial, as it can be shared easily with colleagues and third parties via email. While this flexibility undoubtedly brings great benefit, it also increases the risk of data leakage, which makes it imperative that organizations put measures in place to protect against unwanted leaks and enforce regulatory compliance.

Business challenges

The repercussions of a data leak can be severe, including fines, loss of reputation and even legal action being taken against the organization. Understandably, risk and compliance officers want to protect against such consequences. However, businesses must ensure that the controls put in place don't stifle productivity and that the costs of such a system don't outweigh the benefits.

It is also important that, in the case of a data leak, sufficient information is available to establish who was involved, and the context in which it occurred. This record of events should also be tamper proof in case disciplinary action or legal proceedings are required.

Technical challenges

IT departments face the demanding task of implementing a technical solution that will enforce the complex requirements laid down in their organization's email security policy. In addition to stipulating what content can be emailed between whom, the policy may also specify the security level of the email transmission itself, as well as that of the email data when stored.

This poses the challenge of translating an organization-wide policy across a disparate set of systems that could include email encryption, content filtering and email storage solutions. By its nature, this complexity will be prone to inconsistencies in policy enforcement and present difficulties in evidence gathering should there be a policy violation. Also, the ability to rapidly respond to changing policy requirements could be severely hampered.

Mimecast is a leading provider of essential cloud services for Microsoft Exchange

Fast facts

- Protection against accidental and malicious leaks of data via email
- Centralized management of email content and secure communication policies
- Flexible and granular policies created and applied in real-time
- Consistent policy enforcement, even during customer email infrastructure outages
- Choice of actions to be taken when emails trigger DLP policies



“We wanted to extend the security on emails beyond just stopping receiving spam... Mimecast’s solutions for data leak prevention offer peace of mind to all levels of management within Blue Label Telecoms”

– Dr Angelo Roussos, Chief Information Officer, Blue Label Telecoms

Mimecast solution

Mimecast mitigates risk by delivering organization-wide data leak protection through seamless integration with Microsoft Exchange. This cloud-based service guards against both honest mistakes and malicious intent, safeguards evidence and educates users in policy and best practice.

Moving to the cloud with Mimecast doesn’t mean giving up control. All policies are managed from a single web-based console, and any changes you make are applied in real-time. No matter how many sites or email servers you have, using Mimecast means that your email security policies will be applied consistently to all email traffic. And with our 100% service availability SLA, you can be confident that your policies will be continuously enforced without having to deploy complex, redundant architecture.

Secure Active Directory synchronization, together with flexible content policy management features, makes it easy to apply appropriate controls to specific users and groups. Directory integration also ensures that relevant email signatures and legal notices are applied. Because any part of an email may pose a risk, Mimecast can examine body text, HTML, headers, subject lines and attachments to look for defined words and text patterns as well as inappropriate images. If a policy is triggered, Mimecast offers a choice of possible actions; hold pending review, block, cc a group, deliver securely or add content. You can even remove hidden metadata from Microsoft Word documents to help reduce the risk of unintentional leaks.

Policy based TLS encryption guards against eavesdropping when emails are in transit, helping meet corporate governance and compliance needs. Encryption can be mandatory or applied on an opportunistic basis - you choose. Mimecast’s proprietary Closed Circuit Messaging lets you share sensitive information with people outside your organization without the message ever leaving the confines of the secure Mimecast network. This full-featured secure communication client avoids the overheads associated with key distribution and management. Organizations using Mimecast’s full suite of security, continuity and archiving services enjoy a number of other unique benefits. During local outages, business email keeps working, so users aren’t tempted to circumvent security policies by using personal email, and your standard email policies remain in force. In the event of a security breach, a review of archived messages can help establish whether the leak was malicious or accidental, and identify any collusion or third party involvement.

Mimecast’s fully unified email management service means that you can seamlessly combine our email security, continuity and archiving services at any time – all managed from the same interface.

Key benefits

- Protects business reputation by preventing unwanted leaks
- Supports legal and regulatory compliance needs
- Educates users with automatic notification of policy transgressions
- Supports consistent policy enforcement during email server outages
- Single solution for policy enforcement across multiple sites
- Immediately effective cloud solution with zero capital outlay

About Mimecast

Mimecast is a leading provider of essential cloud services for Microsoft Exchange. Mimecast delivers enterprise email management services that include security, continuity and archiving. This suite of services provides total end-to-end control of business email, while minimizing risk and reducing both cost and complexity. Founded in 2003, Mimecast serves thousands of customers worldwide and has offices in Europe, North America, and Africa.