

Email is today's essential business product. But making sure the wrong kind of emails cannot get in or out of our networks is a major issue. **By Craig Hinton**

While no one would argue that the internet has brought countless benefits to the way we communicate, do business and run our lives, equally no one would claim that there hasn't been a down side to its use.

Over the last few years, the dangers posed by the internet have been widely reported, from child-grooming in chat rooms to the ubiquity of internet porn. Safeguards and software can be put in place to help fight the problem, or a simple

blanket ban may suffice. However, there is one area that is harder to police – email.

There are a number of factors to consider when looking for an email security solution. Firstly, you have to know what you want it to do.

NetIQ MailMarshal SMTP

Version	4.2.5
Supplier	Net IQ Corporation
Price	\$1,360 (50 users)
Contact	www.marshalsoftware.com



SC MAGAZINE BEST BUY New Zealand-based Marshal Software, now part of NetIQ, might not be so well known as some vendors in this Group Test, but it has produced an impressive product in its MailMarshal application, a fully-fledged email security solution.

MailMarshal is suitable for any type of organization. For small businesses, it can be used to replace the existing mail server and act as a POP3 server for up to 500 users. Larger organizations can co-locate the product on their SMTP server (although this is another spool-and-forward application, so performance is an issue), or install it on a dedicated machine.

Given the power and functionality of MailMarshal, installation is far from taxing. You just proceed through a set of windows, checking off the options.

At this point you have access to a plethora of features covering every aspect of email security. Rules can be

set to block attachments for multiple reasons, such as size, type, origin and destination, and attachments are automatically and repeatedly unpacked so that content can be analyzed. There is extensive keyword searching which can be weighted, and there is full notification when violations occur. If you install the optional MailMarshal Secure application, you also have full encryption capabilities.

One problem that some spool-and-forward products encounter is becoming overloaded with new emails faster than they can be processed, creating a bottleneck and severe performance issues – a perfect weak spot for a DoS attack. MAILMarshal overcomes this by allowing you to limit the number of emails it will accept by using a throt-

tle control.

Anti-virus functionality is provided via third-party software, including McAfee, F-Secure and Sophos, while reports are generated using the versatile Crystal Reports application.

If all of this seems overwhelming, there is ample documentation of a high standard to help you.

This is a stunning product. From its efficient installation to the rich set of features it provides, MailMarshal is an impressive and powerful email security product and it is definitely worth downloading the 30-day trial version from the company's web site.

SC MAGAZINE RATING

Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★
OVERALL RATING	★★★★★

FOR Frighteningly simple installation and a staggeringly comprehensive set of security features.

AGAINST None

VERDICT Marshal Software may not be well known, but it deserves to be for a product as outstanding as this.

Contact details:	
	NetIQ Marshal Content Security Solutions www.marshalsoftware.com www.netiq.com sales@marshalsoftware.com
	USA: Atlanta: +1-678-420-1960 Houston: +1-713-548-1700 San Jose: +1-408-856-3000 Europe: UK: +44-1784-454-500 AsiaPac: Australia: +61-2-9959-1973 New Zealand: +64-9-261-2110



Marshal Software may not be well known, but it deserves to be for a product as outstanding as this.