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Chris Newman, IT Architect, Denver Broncos

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At a Glance

Vertical

Sports & Entertainment

Year Founded

1965

VP of IT

Russ Trainor

IT Architect

Chris Newman

Endpoints Managed

300

Website

denverbroncos.com

Key Findings

Time Savings

Scan time reduced from 45+ minutes to a few minutes

Efficacy

Lightweight client greatly reduces system impact and requires fewer resources

No hardware requirements with simplified cloud-based remote administration

Efficiency

No reimaging required with Rollback & Remediation feature

Webroot Boosts the Denver Broncos' Security Game by Reducing Malware & Streamlining Management

Background

The eight-time AFC Championship winner and three-time Super Bowl Champion Denver Broncos are a professional American football team. They are members of the West Division of the American Football Conference (AFC) in the National Football League (NFL).

The Challenge

In today's sports environment, a team's information can be a key competitive advantage, both on the field and in their business operations. With a highly distributed and mobile information technology (IT) environment, efficient data protection and management is paramount to the Broncos.

Prior to the 2013 NFL season, the Broncos reviewed their IT infrastructure, identifying opportunities for improvements to ensure their information would be accessible and secure. The organization was deploying a signature-based antivirus solution that addressed a number of their needs, but was difficult to install, utilized many system resources, required a large footprint and was complex to manage.

The team realized that conventional antivirus solutions are not designed to counter a high rate of zero-day infections and breaches, which required a new approach to detect and prevent malware across multiple domains, endpoints, and offices. To maximize productivity and achieve better cost efficiency, the Broncos needed to find a new antivirus solution that would be simple and effective for its support staff to deploy, unintrusive for its employees, and highly responsive to the evolving malware landscape.

The Solution

The Broncos conducted a comprehensive review to find the best solution to meet their security requirements. As a result of the security assessment, the team's IT department ultimately chose Webroot SecureAnywhere® Business Endpoint Protection to replace their existing solutions due to Webroot's unique cloud-based architecture, which delivered more effective, real-time protection, superior speed and performance, and an adaptable management environment.

"We have tried a few antivirus platforms since I arrived at the Broncos in 2008 and the Webroot SecureAnywhere solution is, by far, the most complete and robust platform we have installed to date," said Russ Trainor, vice president of information technology for the Denver Broncos. "We debated as a team whether or not to change our security right at the beginning of the football season. After we ran a Webroot pilot installation, there was no question. We all felt we owed it to our users to get this application rolled out to the organization as soon as possible."

Webroot's ability to provide powerful protection from online threats for PCs, Mac® computers, and Android™ and iOS® smartphones and tablets was incredibly important to the Broncos, making them an ideal fit for the team's diverse and highly-distributed IT environment. Webroot's cloud-based security platform blocks new threats more quickly, and enables administrators to manage endpoints anytime, no matter where they are located. Webroot's ability to run seamlessly alongside other programs was also a feature that heavily influenced the final purchase decision.

"We would have a couple of computer rebuilds each month due to malware infections, which adversely affected employee and IT productivity with down time," said Chris Newman, IT architect for the Denver Broncos. "Since migrating to Webroot, we haven't had to clean or rebuild a single computer."

Results

Unlike traditional security solutions, Webroot SecureAnywhere Business – Endpoint Protection installs in seconds, scans in less than two minutes, and never requires security updates or signature database downloads which consume network bandwidth and leave users exposed. Webroot's unique cloud architecture allows the Broncos to quickly gather critical collective endpoint data and provide real-time intelligence to protect against ever-evolving threats. The solution simplifies many of the Broncos existing processes and provides more reliable protection for the team's IT environment. "We have not seen a client scanning engine perform this well to date. You can't tell you're running the engine in the background as a user," Newman says.

Since deploying Webroot SecureAnywhere Business Endpoint Protection, the Broncos have reported a significant downturn in traditional malware on their employee devices. The solution's light scanning footprint and no-definition model provides automatic updates and real-time protection, which enables the staff to spend less time worrying about security and more time invested in work. The system's ability to categorize the level of harm of potential viruses, as well as the rollback functionality that enables infections to be remediated at a later date, has also enhanced the team's ability to effectively manage data.

The Broncos expect that the reduction in security concerns will greatly enhance the employee experience. In addition, the management portal is much easier and quicker to navigate, provides real-time reporting, and has made a dramatic difference on productivity levels. The resource usage on the client is minimal and even shows the resources being utilized.

"Webroot has fortified and simplified our security platform," Newman reports. "From deployment and installation to performance, monitoring, reporting and technical support, Webroot has exceeded our expectations. Our ability to protect and monitor our organization's devices regardless of platform is invaluable. If you are looking at changing endpoint security vendors, it would be a mistake not to consider Webroot as a frontrunner."

About Webroot

Webroot was the first to harness the cloud and artificial intelligence to protect businesses and individuals against cyber threats. We provide the number one security solution for managed service providers and small businesses, who rely on Webroot for endpoint protection, network protection, and security awareness training. Webroot BrightCloud® Threat Intelligence Services are used by market leading companies like Cisco, F5 Networks, Citrix, Aruba, Palo Alto Networks, A10 Networks, and more. Leveraging the power of machine learning to protect millions of businesses and individuals, Webroot secures the connected world. Headquartered in Colorado, Webroot operates globally across North America, Europe, and Asia. Discover Smarter Cybersecurity® solutions at webroot.com.

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