



Securepoint RC 100 UTM Firewall for small networks.

Security first!

The internet has become one of the most important partners in the daily lives of private users and companies alike. An unaccountable number of viruses, bugs and the like are a serious threat that can cause enormous damages to any affected network and connected web-enabled devices.

TEXT: SILKE HENKELE | PHOTOS: SECUREPOINT GMBH

Founded in 2000, Securepoint, an organically grown, highly profitable medium-sized company, over the last 17 years has grown to become Germany's biggest provider for Unified Threat Management (UTM) solutions. "The last 17 years have been an incredible journey. When I established Securepoint, I wanted to provide my clients with the most secure, most sophisticated and most up-to-date solutions available. Securepoint's continuing success shows me that we succeeded," says Lutz Hausmann, founder and owner of Lüneburg-based company Securepoint, who is pleased to look back on his company's success.

No back doors

Securepoint is a developer and provider of IT security products aimed at the com-

plete protection of company networks and connected devices, which includes servers, PCs as well as copy machines, printers and mobile devices. "Our products protect network devices from viruses, Trojans, ransomware as well as hackers. We have also developed specialised and safe archive solutions for e-mail data," says Hausmann, giving a quick overview of Securepoint's range of services.

Here, Securepoint makes a definite statement: "Most IT security products that have been developed in the United States or in Israel are provided with a so-called 'back door' - meaning that their systems can be breached and infiltrated with, for example, spyware. We know of cases where these intruders have stolen company know-how like, for example, patents, intercepted in-

ternal communication or corrupted devices or whole networks. As we are very much aware of this problem, we have developed programs without these back doors. As a member of TeleTrusT, a German IT security association that promotes information security professionalism, we have signed an agreement to not leave these back doors in any of our products," elucidates Hausmann about the security of Securepoint's products.

Ransomware and recent threats

Only recently have attacks by ransomware become public and names like Locky or WannaCry, which affected hospitals in the UK and Scotland as well as other companies in almost 100 countries, may sound painfully familiar. "Ransomware are viruses or Trojans that infect computers through the internet. Once infected, the user is unable to access the data stored on a computer. In order to regain access, the user is forced to pay Bitcoins, a virtual currency to an equally virtual account or wallet. As these kinds of transactions are difficult to track, the aggressor can be

fairly certain to never get caught. A fitting security system is able to protect networks and connected devices from these threats. Here, our products are one of the best and safest choice," offers Hausmann.

Effective firewalls

"We have increasingly become dependent on the internet - meaning that an increasing amount of devices rely on it. Printers, PCs, even cameras, smart TVs, stereos, intelligent heating systems, baby phones - virtually each IP-based device can become an unwelcome gateway to your professional as well as private life. It thus does not suffice to merely protect your PC. Private users as well as companies need to protect themselves against these intrusions if privacy is meant to be maintained. Placed between the internet and the internal network or private Wi-Fi, our UTM firewalls scan all content streaming through these connections. These firewalls provide a number of safeguards like filters that recognise viruses, Trojans and the like and who will disable these threats," explains Hausmann.

Yet the best security net cannot work properly if it does not engage in teamwork: "If various security systems like, for example, a PC virus scanner and UTM firewalls are in place, it is advisable that these systems

co-operate, thus maximising their effect," Hausmann adds.

Stay alert

While internet security is vital for the effective protection of computers and other devices and networks, a one-off installation does not suffice. "Once the security system is in place, it needs to be maintained, i.e. regular updates are an absolute necessity if security is to be kept on a reliable and up-to-date level," urges Hausmann.

On her recent visit to Securepoint's new premises, Brigitte Zypries, German minister for economics and energy, agreed with Hausmann's appeal and further underlined the importance of secure net-

works particularly for small- and medium-sized companies.

With an increasing level of dependency on the internet, private users and companies alike must remain vigilant for threats - Securepoint is a reliable partner when it comes to fending off those dangerous bugs that threaten to compromise your company's sensitive data and privacy alike.

www.securepoint.de/en



Securepoint RC 300 UTM for large networks.



CEOs Claudia and Lutz Hausmann in conversation with Brigitte Zypries, German minister for economics and energy.



Employees at Securepoint and Brigitte Zypries.