CASE STUDY

A long-lasting partnership keeps leading homebuilder free from email and web threats.

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EMAIL PROTECTION

Customer

- Denbury Homes is the new name for a long-established property builder in the East Anglia region of the UK
- It has a 35-year heritage of building exceptional homes rooted in the local community

Challenges

- Persistent threat of email and web-borne attacks
- Administrative burden for a small IT team

Solutions

- Barracuda Email Gateway Defense
- Barracuda Content Shield
- Barracuda Cloud Archiving Service

Benefits

- Saves IT team time and effort
- Has kept business 100% free of malware compromise
- Streamlined support to rapidly resolve any issues

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The construction sector is not often regarded as a prime target for threat actors. Yet in the US, it added nearly $1 trillion to GDP in 2021. Even in the UK, it employs millions and contributes around 6% of total economic output. Little wonder, then, that it is increasingly being scrutinized by avaricious cyber-criminals. The threat is so acute that the UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) recently released its first ever guidance document for the sector.

It's a threat that Denbury Homes IT Systems and Development Manager, John Painter, is well aware of.

"The construction industry isn't renowned for being the most technically capable," he says. "We employ people who are hands-on—so computers assist but don't drive their role. That's why we have to ensure that technology fills in the gaps where for other people in other industries there may not be such an issue."

That role, at least for web and email security, has fallen to Barracuda. It's a relationship that has stood the test of time for a decade.

Securing the cloud

Much has changed in the technology landscape since John first came across Barracuda products in his role for the previous iteration of the firm. But when the recent decision to migrate to Microsoft 365 was taken, Barracuda was the natural choice to protect Denbury Homes' 42 employees and 90 shared endpoint devices.

They key requirement was to protect those users from "point-and-click" risks such as phishing emails, web downloads and visits to risky sites, as well as CEO fraud. Both the long-standing relationship and competitive pricing were key factors in the decision to choose Barracuda.

"Microsoft initially did not offer much in the way of web security and it didn't offer much in the way of email filtering, so we had no option but to look for other product offerings," John explains. "Although it has now addressed some of those shortcomings there are still some issues, and we have a more trusted experience with Barracuda."

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> **John Painter**
> IT Systems and Development Manager
> Denbury Homes

Protection and archiving

In the end, John opted for Barracuda Email Gateway Defense for comprehensive cloud-based email security. Simple to deploy and maintain, it features Barracuda Advanced Threat Protection, which combines behavioral, heuristic, and sandboxing technologies to block more sophisticated and targeted threats. There's also link protection to guard against inadvertent malware download, and data loss prevention capabilities.

John also chose Barracuda Content Shield to optimize the firm's web security. The cloud-based tool delivers advanced DNS and URL filtering to prevent users from accessing malicious web content, and local file scanning to disrupt threats lurking on endpoints. The product can also be used to protect users outside of the corporate network.

Denbury Homes complemented these offerings with the Barracuda Cloud Archiving Service for simple, streamlined archiving of Microsoft 365 emails. It leverages the Barracuda Cloud to store data for as long as needed without risk of amendment or deletion.

The IT team at Denbury Homes was able to get up-and-running with these products quickly thanks to the online resources supplied in the Barracuda Campus. John has been impressed with the phone-based support offered by Barracuda on the few occasions required since.

"It's very good. We only have a better relationship with Microsoft," he says.

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Total security

These latest in a long line of investments in Barracuda by the homebuilder have helped to save time and money, drive-up protection and enhance productivity. On the latter, Denbury Homes now has 20+ years' worth of emails in the cloud archiving solution, all indexed and ready for employees to search, according to John.

"Sometimes the simplest products are the most beneficial," he says.

The email and web security offerings have not only enhanced protection but also made life a lot easier for the company's small IT team. Previously a technician would spend as many as two hours each day reviewing content logs for false positives, John explains.

"We spend less time than we've ever had to before in reviewing the email and web content filtering logs. Because more websites are now properly categorized and the Barracuda database is more granular, we have to do less intervention and less web filtering rule manipulation," he adds.

"And now we've moved to a virtually provisioned service we don't have to get involved in monitoring appliances or internal hosting. That means we've been able to spend more time looking at new technologies coming through as well as new risks."

Barracuda has protected the firm from malware for over a decade, but there are always new threats around the corner. That's why John is open to looking at adding new capabilities in the future.

"Barracuda is always releasing new products and we're always evaluating if they've spotted a risk which we haven't addressed," he says. "At the moment we don't have anything that's broken to warrant us going anywhere else."

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Learn more about Barracuda Email Gateway Defense:

Barracuda Email Gateway Defense quickly filters and sanitizes every email before it is delivered to your mail server to protect you from email-borne threats. Using virus scanning, spam scoring, real-time intent analysis, URL link protection, reputation checks, and other techniques, Barracuda provides you with the best possible level of protection.

Learn more about Barracuda Content Shield:

Barracuda Content Shield provides granular policy enforcement, reporting, and robust content filtering by leveraging Barracuda's extensive threat intelligence network. Barracuda Content Shield protects users from malicious sites and inappropriate content. Keep your business safer and employees more productive anywhere with real-time cloud-based protection against web-based threats. Barracuda Content Shield delivers advanced web security with a more limited feature-set.

Learn more about Barracuda Cloud Archiving Service:

Barracuda Cloud Archiving Service provides secure cloud-based archiving, helping you meet demanding compliance requirements and address e-discovery requests easily and effectively. Ideal for use with services such as Office 365 and G Suite, it uses the Barracuda Cloud to store data for as long as needed without risk of amendment or deletion. It increases user productivity by making it easy to access every message ever sent or received, from any device.

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About Barracuda

At Barracuda we strive to make the world a safer place. We believe every business deserves access to cloud-first, enterprise-grade security solutions that are easy to buy, deploy, and use. We protect email, networks, data, and applications with innovative solutions that grow and adapt with our customers' journey. More than 200,000 organizations worldwide trust Barracuda to protect them — in ways they may not even know they are at risk — so they can focus on taking their business to the next level. For more information, visit barracuda.com.