



Uttlesford's Scalable e-Government Solution Looks To The Future

In line with leG objectives, Uttlesford District Council intends to make 100% of its services available electronically by 2005

"I wanted to ensure that we did not find ourselves at the 'bleeding edge' of technology. What pleases me most is that we have achieved our objectives with a design implemented by Enline using established, best in class products. Furthermore, this has been done in such a way as to use the available budget without restricting our ability to extend the solution in the future." *John Mercer, IT Manager Uttlesford District Council*

Enline plc implemented a complete solution to achieve all of Uttlesford's objectives - a standards-based and modular security solution that provides a scalable, robust and manageable platform. This enables the Council to protect sensitive and confidential network resources whilst being able to securely deliver valuable in-house web services.

The problem – implementing a secure communication infrastructure.

The secure communication infrastructure needed to:

- Provide a robust and stable security architecture that was standards-based, yet affordable within a tight budget.
- Have a resilient architecture that provided a reliable platform for the development and enhancement of e-services.

- Ensure that the implemented system was user friendly and provided high levels of user transparency.
- Provide a scalable solution that could protect internal network resources whilst providing the performance required to securely deliver in-house web services.
- Be easily managed and administered.
- Use products that are established in the security marketplace and can be supported long term.

The solution – secure, scalable network for Uttlesford's internal and externally accessed information.

The solution has provided Uttlesford with the ability to ensure that only users who are entitled to access, gain access and that systems retain their integrity and confidentiality. Similarly, Uttlesford has been able to ensure that locally hosted data that needs to be safeguarded from potential security breaches can be properly protected.

The approach taken was to provide a 'dual skin' or 'double bastion'. This approach uses a combination of StoneGate and Checkpoint firewalls with resilient servers, within a DMZ.

The modularity of the approach ensures that the design can be extended, either to add additional servers or to include remote sites within a VPN. All the Council's remote users will access the Council's systems via a secure link

from the web site. Key components in achieving this are Netegrity's SiteMinder and RSA's SecurID. Netegrity's SiteMinder has been used to provide a minimal sign-on solution. Remote users are presented with a personalised page, showing the applications for which they have access permissions. In time, SiteMinder will be used to provide the public with single sign-on access to the Council's various web-enabled applications running on Oracle and SQL.

In order to remove the problems associated with password-based authentication into central systems, both network and web based, along with alleviating password management issues, Enline have implemented RSA SecurID to provide two-factor strong authentication.

The benefits – a secure communications infrastructure

StoneGate provides Uttlesford with the following benefits:

- The loss of a critical network component could mean thousands in lost revenue, operational inefficiencies, and loss of credibility with its citizens. StoneGate provides the solution for 24x7 network connectivity with the StoneGate High Availability Firewall and VPN.
- StoneGate provides the first fully scalable, high security and high performance firewall and VPN solution for business critical applications. StoneGate is the first firewall to provide secure connections and load

balancing between multiple ISPs to ensure continuous network connectivity.

Through the implementation of the Enline secure architecture, Uttlesford District Council will accrue the following benefits:

- Reduced cost of remote access.
- Reduced cost of managing the infrastructure.
- Ability for remote users(including elected Members) to access the network, securely, from any

location.

- Reduced cost of providing the corporate web server (built to load balance and failover).
- Secure platform to deliver e - government services.

As can be seen from this study, the solution implemented at Uttlesford takes a modular, industry standard approach to the issue of building a working infrastructure.

"Our instructions from Uttlesford were clear; to implement a

solution that achieved their business objectives within their budget, without exposing them to the vagaries of cutting edge technology. By using established 'Best of breed' solutions, we have done this and future proofed their infrastructure. This is a great demonstration of how technologies from different suppliers can be made to work together without costing the earth". Richard Mardling, Enline plc's Strategic Business Director



Enline plc
T 0844 800 1985 F 0844 800 3018
E sales@enline.com W www.enline.com

