

# Exchange Server Antivirus Software

*Stop viruses at your door*



Gauging just how serious a threat email viruses pose these days is difficult because of the many hoaxes and relatively benign viruses that exist.

But a viral infection is never a good thing, and email viruses are especially nefarious because they tend to spread infection as soon as you open the attachment. Although your end users should maintain an antivirus solution on their desktops, ensuring that users' virus scanners are regularly updated—or are even running—is difficult.

The most seamless and transparent way to maintain a virus-free Microsoft Exchange Server environment is to use a server-side virus scanner. A good server-side antivirus application serves as your first line of defense against viruses. An Exchange antivirus program creates a chokepoint at your network's front door, detects infected email and attachments, and cleans or quarantines them before they even enter your network.

The most important criterion in an Exchange antivirus solution is frequent virus-definition updates that you can deploy automatically and painlessly. New viruses appear often, and responsive vendors will issue definition updates within hours of a serious virus outbreak. A virus scanner that isn't promptly updated to detect new strains won't be able to stop new viruses from entering your network. Look for a program that automatically connects every day to the vendor's server to retrieve and install updates.

If you're using Exchange 2000 Server, you'll probably want a solution that supports Microsoft's Virus Scanning API (VS API) 2.0, which ships with Exchange 2000 Service Pack 1 (SP1). An antivirus program that leverages the VS API can scan all incoming and outgoing traffic, providing the highest possible level of integration with Exchange.

Choose a product that includes comprehensive reporting options to keep you updated about what's happening behind the scenes. Look at the native report format that the product uses (in a network environment, HTML is preferred) and the level of detail reports include. Notification options are also important if you work with high-traffic Exchange servers—ideal solutions can notify you through email or Short Message Service (SMS) when they detect any suspicious activity. Finally, flexible and customizable rule sets let you easily tailor the software to your environment.

At the architectural level, packages that use multiple threads provide better performance. If you work with multiple Exchange sys-

tems, a single-server scanning solution probably won't do you much good—you'll want a program that can automatically scale up and accommodate server clustering options. In large-scale environments, choose a solution with an HTML-based interface that lets you maintain all servers from one central access point.

Pricing is a major factor in selecting an Exchange antivirus solution. Maintaining a clean network isn't cheap, but different vendors offer different pricing options.

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Small environments will probably want a program with a tiered sitelicensing structure. For a midsized network, a flat-rate or a bulk seat license package is more economical, whereas per-seat licensing is the most economical solution for large installations.

But don't sacrifice features and performance to cost. All the products listed in this Buyer's Guide should keep your network clean, but product-specific features will determine which piece of software best fits your environment. Think of your purchase as a one-time investment that will protect your network for years to come.

—Jonathan Chau

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**Editor's Note:** The Buyer's Guide summarizes vendor-submitted information. To find out about future Buyer's Guide topics or to learn how to include your product in an upcoming Buyer's Guide, go to <http://www.winnetmag.com/buyersguide>. To view previous Buyer's Guides on the Web, go to <http://www.winnetmag.com/articles/index.cfm?action=buyersguides>.

**BUYER'S GUIDE | ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE**

Compiled by Sue Cooper

Contact Information	Product Name	Price	Description
<b>Aladdin Knowledge Systems</b> 847-818-3800 800-562-2543 <a href="http://www.ealaddin.com">http://www.ealaddin.com</a>	eSafe Mail	\$3360 for 100 seats	Protects Exchange and Lotus Notes groupware servers; manages email traffic based on corporate policies for blocking and scanning dangerous attachments, malicious scripts, spam, spoofed mail, and other hostile content; scans and cleans private and public mailboxes; features load-balancing capabilities with scalable, high-availability architecture
<b>Command Software Systems</b> 561-575-3200 800-423-9147 <a href="http://www.commandsoftware.com">http://www.commandsoftware.com</a>	Command AntiVirus for Microsoft Exchange	\$720 for 25 users	Secures virus entry points; employs HoloCheck scanning technology to prevent known and unknown viruses from infiltrating your organization
<b>Computer Associates</b> 631-342-5224 800-225-5224 <a href="http://www.ca.com">http://www.ca.com</a>	eTrust Antivirus Groupware	Contact vendor for pricing	Scans all inbound and outbound email messages for malicious attachments; stops email-borne virus outbreaks on Exchange; features multiple scanning engines and seamless integration with VS API
	eTrust Inoculate/T Microsoft Exchange Option	Contact vendor for pricing	Provides virus protection for Exchange 2000 and Exchange Server 5.5; scans all inbound and outbound email messages for malicious attachments; features multiple scanning engines, centralized logging, and seamless integration with VS API
<b>Computer Mail Services</b> 248-352-6700 800-883-2674 <a href="http://www.cmsconnect.com">http://www.cmsconnect.com</a>	Praetor	\$8809 for 1000 users	Rules-based email content security product that you install directly on your Exchange server or on a separate PC; rules wizard lets you create custom rules
<b>F-Secure</b> 408-938-6700 888-432-8233 <a href="http://www.f-secure.com">http://www.f-secure.com</a>	F-Secure Anti-Virus for Microsoft Exchange	\$45 for 25 to 49 users	Detects and removes malicious code in email messages and attachments in realtime
<b>GFI</b> 919-388-3373 888-243-4329 <a href="http://www.gfi.com">http://www.gfi.com</a>	Mail essentials for Exchange 5 and Exchange 2000	Starts at \$350	Email-content checking and antivirus gateway that protects users from current and future email viruses and attacks; removes viruses, spam, and dangerous or offensive attachments and content
<b>Kaspersky Lab</b> <a href="mailto:info@kaspersky.com">info@kaspersky.com</a> <a href="http://www.kaspersky.com">http://www.kaspersky.com</a>	Kaspersky Anti-Virus for Microsoft Exchange Server	Contact vendor for pricing	Centralized antivirus system for email gateways; provides antivirus filtering for all local and external email traffic in realtime or on demand
<b>MicroWorld Software Services</b> <a href="mailto:sales@mspl.net">sales@mspl.net</a> <a href="http://www.mspl.net">http://www.mspl.net</a>	MailScan	\$336 for 10 users	Analyzes email messages before the messages reach clients or the servers on your network by using the MicroWorld WinSock Layer (MWL); supports SMTP and POP3 standards
<b>Nemx Software</b> 613-831-2010 <a href="http://www.nemx.com">http://www.nemx.com</a>	Nemx Anti-Virus for MS Exchange Server	\$795	Provides virus protection for Exchange 2000; doesn't require a proxy server or gateway; the product is directly "bolted on" to the SMTP gateway, providing performance, cost, and administrative benefits

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	Nemx Anti Virus for Internet Mail Connector	\$795	Provides virus protection for Exchange's Internet Mail Connector (IMC); doesn't require a proxy server or gateway; the product is directly "bolted on" to the Internet Mail Service (IMS), providing performance, cost, and administrative benefits
<b>Network Associates</b> 972-308-9960 888-847-8766 <a href="http://www.mcafeeb2b.com">http://www.mcafeeb2b.com</a>	GroupShield Exchange	Starts at \$39 per node	Protects Exchange servers from viruses and malicious code; scans inbound and outbound email messages and provides realtime and on-demand scanning for all public and private folders
<b>Panda Software</b> 818-553-0599 800-603-4922 <a href="http://www.pandasecurity.com">http://www.pandasecurity.com</a>	Panda Antivirus for Exchange 2000	Contact vendor for pricing	Provides realtime and on-demand scans of private and public folders and of the Message Transfer Agent (MTA) connectors; memory optimization scanning technology and VS API integration guarantee high-performance scanning of email messages, attachments, nested messages, and compressed files at all levels
<b>Sybari Software</b> 631-630-8500 <a href="http://www.sybari.com">http://www.sybari.com</a>	Antigen for Microsoft Exchange	Starts at \$7.50 per user	Server-level antivirus solution that provides multiple virus scan engine support; features Antigen File Filtering and Antigen Worm Purge, a proactive tool that safeguards against worms burrowing into email networks
<b>Symantec</b> 408-517-8000 800-441-7234 <a href="http://www.symantec.com">http://www.symantec.com</a>	Norton AntiVirus 2.5 for Microsoft Exchange	Contact vendor for pricing	Automatically detects and removes viruses on Exchange servers; scan and repair technologies protect against new and unknown viruses, including fast-spreading macro and polymorphic viruses; supports clustering options; lets you automatically filter email messages with inappropriate attachment names or extensions
	Symantec AntiVirus/Filtering for Microsoft Exchange 2000	Contact vendor for pricing	Integrated antivirus and content-filtering solution scans for inappropriate material and provides enterprise customers with protection, detection, and removal of security threats on Exchange servers
<b>Trend Micro</b> 408-257-1500 800-228-5651 <a href="http://www.antivirus.com">http://www.antivirus.com</a>	ScanMail eManager	Starts at \$181 for 25 users	A server-based, optional plugin for ScanMail for Microsoft Exchange that integrates information-management with virus protection; provides content-management tools that let you control the type of email data entering and leaving the Exchange environment
	ScanMail for Microsoft Exchange	Starts at \$600 for 25 users	Detects and removes hidden viruses in email attachments and public folders in realtime; deploys instantly to multiple servers across the enterprise; provides remote management for reporting, monitoring, and configuration
	ScanMail for Microsoft Exchange 2000	Starts at \$600 for 25 users	Detects and removes viruses in realtime; instantly deploys to multiple servers across the enterprise; provides remote management for reporting, monitoring, and configuration