

Business continues to fly with better data protection and performance

Air Works achieves rapid adoption of cloud IT as next-generation firewalls reduce latency to less than 50 milliseconds



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Ravinder Pal Singh, Global Chief Information and Technical Officer, Air Works

Customer profile



Company	Air Works
Industry	Aerospace & Defense
Country	India
Employees	850
Website	www.airworks.in

Business need

Air Works needed a next-generation firewall solution to help deliver its transformational IT strategy for adopting cloud.

Solution

The company chose a SonicWall SuperMassive solution configured in an active/active cluster for high availability and higher throughput to achieve the performance parameter of 350 milliseconds.

Benefits

- Nonlinear business growth driven by rapid digitization thus leading to true transformation
- Greater productivity through 20 times reduction in network latency
- Enhanced threat protection against network intruders and malware
- Maximized uptimes with firewalls configured in high-availability mode
- Scalable solution supports long-term business development

Solutions at a glance

- [Network Security](#)
- [Enterprise Support](#)

In an era of cloud IT, the role of the firewall has changed. Today, firewalls not only protect data on- and off-premises, but they also maximize performance. Air Works, established in 1951, is the leading EASA-certified provider of aviation MRO (maintenance, repair and overhaul) and painting services. The company is qualified to maintain more than 50 types of aircraft in hangars across India, Europe and Middle East.

To enable nonlinear business growth, Air Works architected and built its own cloud platform offering Internet as a Service, Platform as a Service and Software as a Service, and covering 95 percent of the company's IT portfolio. Air Works looked for a firewall solution that could support its transformational cloud strategy.

The need to protect data and boost application performance

Ravinder Pal Singh, Global Chief Information and Technical Officer at Air Works, who created the strategy and the company's enterprise architecture, knew that a move to the cloud had to be reliable and secure. Firewall technology would play an important role in the transformation. With customers such as governments and large enterprises, network security had to be tight. The firewall solution also had to be fully redundant and able to scale with rapid business growth. He says, "Performance has huge impact on change management, and application latency of 350 milliseconds was a critical success factor. Otherwise, the end-user experience would be affected, limiting the success of our cloud."

A next-generation firewall provider worth working with

Air Works considered proposals from leading technology vendors. The company already had a long history with SonicWall having used a number of its Network Security Appliance (NSA) firewalls, including SonicWall E-Series NSA 5500/5600, NSA 3500 and NSA 250M.

Following discussions with Dell, Air Works identified the SonicWall SuperMassive 9400 Next-Generation Firewall clustered in active/active mode as the right solution. It offered deep packet inspection for superior threat protection as well as application control and, more importantly for Mr. Singh, advanced scalability. He says, "I felt we could successfully adopt cloud technology with the SonicWall SuperMassive 9400 firewall. The combination of threat protection and improving network performance was right for us."

Transforming IT services, enhancing employee performance

Air Works has successfully transformed its IT with the support of SonicWall next-generation firewalls. Personnel across over 45 locations gain secure and rapid access to the applications they need to safely maintain, repair and overhaul customers' aircrafts.

Comments Mr. Singh, "We are a rapidly growing company with cutting-edge and modern IT infrastructure in place to drive and support an excellent level of customer service. Solutions such as SonicWall are a key part of our IT success story."

Greater productivity through 20 times reduction in network latency

Employees report a high rate of work satisfaction. With the SonicWall SuperMassive 9400 firewall solution in place, network latency is now less than 50 milliseconds. Mr. Singh says, "I have been able to deliver on my roadmap and to the goals of the architecture as a result of the performance of the SonicWall solution. Network latency has been reduced by 20 times," he says.

Maximum threat protection against network intruders and malware

Because of the sensitivity of information and its spread across distributed locations, Air Works had to ensure the firewall solution kept the

network secure at all times. Comments Mr. Singh, "Network protection is a top priority for Air Works and I'm glad to say SonicWall is enabling us to meet our security commitments."

Highly available firewalls without a single point of failure

Air Works has also enjoyed continuous protection through the SonicWall solution, which is configured in an active/active, high-availability cluster. The solution offers automatic failover and fallback of primary and secondary connectivity to avoid any single points of failure. Assistance from SonicWall Global Support Services helps ensure that uptimes are now maximized.

Scalable solution supports long-term business development

Looking ahead, Mr. Singh is confident Air Works can continue to push growth with the support of its firewall solution. "We are creating and supporting our cloud platform through our SonicWall solution. I believe we have found the right solution for both network protection and our cloud strategy."

Products & Services

Services

SonicWall Global Support Services

Hardware

SonicWall SuperMassive 9400 Next-Generation Firewall

SonicWall E-Series NSA 5500/5600 appliances

SonicWall NSA 3500 and 250M appliances

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