

Town of Atherton Ditches Standalone Solutions for SonicWall Simplicity

Municipal government adopts SonicWall's integrated platform and sees boosts in performance, reliability and efficiency.

Business Need

Located in central California, United States, the Town of Atherton is a local government municipality serving a population of about 7,000. While its roughly 60 employees and contractors previously relied on a hodgepodge of HP and Cisco switches, Unifi Access Points and SonicWall NSa 2650 next-generation firewalls, this disparate setup provided inconsistent performance and reliability issues. What's more, due to the age of most of the equipment, there was little to no support available for the hardware. Hoping to standardize their cybersecurity solutions under a single reliable and high-performance platform, Atherton compared a variety of solutions from several vendors.

Solution

After thorough evaluation, Atherton opted for two NSa 2700 NGFWs, along with SonicWave Access Points and SonicWall Switches. Infinity Technologies with SonicWall configured the new wireless environment himself using the SonicWall Wireless Network Manager(WNM). Both the Town and Police environments had different requirements, yet they were able to accommodate all needs with the SonicWall APs in WNM SonicWall's switches provided the POE+ for VOIP and Wi-Fi APs while providing a high-speed 10Gb backbone for each switch in the environment.

Results

Since deploying the new SonicWall equipment, municipal employees have noted a big improvement in performance, along with a dramatic increase in the security environment's dependability. While Suber noted that newer equipment was partially responsible, he gives a lot of credit to SonicWall's integrated platform approach. "SonicWall was able to provide us solutions for nearly everything we required on our network, and the only equipment that isn't SonicWall works perfectly with the rest of our equipment," he said.

SonicWall's single pane of glass management has further simplified security, offering significant improvement over their previous setup. Before, the municipality relied on access points that required an on-prem controller and had difficulty being managed over the dark fiber connection to its secondary site. Now, all 30+ access points reside within a single portal, with multiple VLANs and SSIDs for them. Best of all, these gains in reliability, performance and simplicity have been realized alongside a dramatic reduction in cost versus competitors. "Our experience has been outstanding from implementation to customer service," Suber said.

Benefits

- Significantly lower TCO
- Improved performance
- Greater dependability
- Ease of setup
- Simplified management via single pane of glass

Solutions at a glance

- NSa Series
- SonicWave Access Points
- SonicWall Switches

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"Our experience has been outstanding from implementation to customer service."

Anthony Suber

Deputy City Manager
Atherton, California

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Company	Town of Atherton
Industry	Local Government
Country	United States
Employees	60
Website	www.ci.atherton.ca.us