

Leading Silicon Valley Law Firm Says “Case Closed” to Spyware

Mi5 stopped spyware that had eluded 5 other security solutions on Fenwick & West’s highly sensitive corporate networks

As one of the country’s top high-tech law firms, Fenwick & West is proud of its IT expertise. The company has a lot riding on its network, with thousands of emails, instant messages, and voice over IP communications that need to be tightly secured.

The IT department didn’t believe spyware was a problem -- after all, it had multiple defenses deployed on every desktop, including the two leading anti-spyware clients.

Matt Kesner, Fenwick & West’s Chief Technology Officer, recalls, “There was a nagging feeling in the back of my neck. I’d wake up some nights wondering why we didn’t catch all of the spyware instances we knew of.”

The Results

Matt says, “When we installed the Mi5 Webgate appliance, we were very surprised to see hundreds of previously unsuspected spyware instances. We were chagrined because we had five layers of antivirus and malware scanning on our network already. And even before messages came into our network, they went through a couple of outsourced scanners. We were especially chagrined because more than a hundred of those were serious threats, including keyloggers and other very serious pieces of malware.

“Keyloggers and phone-home spyware are particularly nasty for us, because our firm represents some of the world’s largest technology companies, and we need to keep their secrets secure. Fortunately, the nastiest infections were on staff machines, not the machines of partners or high-level secretaries.

“Our impression of Mi5, after we were able to verify those initial incidents, was very high. The Mi5 reports showed us exactly what it found on each machine, so it was easy to track each instance. In fact, we had more trouble getting the malware off the machines than finding it. But Mi5 has since dealt with that issue, with its Enterprise SpyWash product, which automates the removal of spyware and malware.



FENWICK & WEST LLP

Organization:

Fenwick & West, LLP
Silicon Valley, CA
www.fenwick.com

Industry:

Legal

Challenge:

Protect confidential client data against keyloggers and other malware. Spyware wasn’t considered a problem, but the IT leaders had an uneasy feeling. Were the current “industry-leading” solutions enough?

Solution:

Installed two Mi5 Webgate 007 models (1 active, 1 standby), which immediately revealed hundreds of instances of unidentified malware. The Mi5 SpyWash application automates removal of spyware/malware, saving the IT staff countless hours.

"We were extremely impressed. Aside from its amazing accuracy, what we like best about Mi5 Webgate is that it's very easy to use."

"Like most IT departments, we're stretched thin, and we don't need a product that's going to add substantially to our burden. Mi5 fits well within the current workload of our people involved with messaging, networking, and security. And the latest version incorporates the SpyWash tool, which removes spyware from machines automatically."

"That's very exciting for us, because it takes one additional human step out of the process, and saves us even more time."

About Fenwick & West, LLP

Fenwick & West represents some of the world's largest high-technology and biotech firms. The company has approximately 600 employees, including 250 lawyers in its San Francisco, Silicon Valley, and Boise, Idaho offices and service teams worldwide.

Fenwick & West was rated the top law firm in the United States for technology sector mergers and acquisitions (MergerMarket), one of the top five West Coast firms in both IP litigation and IP protection (Managing Intellectual Property), one of the top ten computer and software patent law firms in the United States (PatentRatings LLC), and the country's number-three technology firm and among the 100 most prestigious firms in the nation (Venture).

About Mi5 Networks

Mi5 Networks develops secure web gateways that transparently protect organizations against web threats including malicious URLs, spyware, botnet Trojans, and viruses. The company's Webgate product line detects, blocks, and removes malware concealed in web traffic without slowing down response times. Webgate appliances eliminate lost employee productivity, clean-up costs, and data theft associated with undetected infections. Mi5 is a privately held company based in Sunnyvale, California. For more information visit: www.mi5networks.com.

FENWICK & WEST LLP

Mi5's Value

"We were amazed. Within the first few hours, it found literally hundreds of pieces of spyware and malware. We've since recommended Mi5 to a number of colleagues in other law firms."

Powerful Reports and Alerts

"Mi5 let us quickly set up regular reports that are automatically delivered to our Help Desk, as well as special alerts for the nastiest forms of malware."

Easy to Operate and Maintain

"We've been able to make the product fit within the current team resources we have, and we haven't had to dedicate even part of an FTE."

Mi5 Solves the Problem

"Mi5 has solved our adware, crimeware, and botnet problem. On a scale of 1 to 10, we give it a 10."