



WatchGuard Provides Sterling Resilience In WA Council's Annual Security Penetration Testing Programme

Sydney – 3 August, 2009 – WatchGuard Technologies, a global leader in extensible network security and connectivity solutions, today announced that it is successfully countering annual third party security penetration testing conducted by the City of Stirling in Western Australia.

Facing the ongoing challenge of improving ICT's flexibility and responsiveness to the business, the City of Stirling's penetration testing has been put in place as part of a best practice approach to IT. This also includes a platform for virtualisation and a sustainability program aimed at reducing the information technology environmental footprint.

WatchGuard Firebox X Peak 5000 appliances keep the City of Stirling's network traffic moving with up to 2.3 Gbps firewall throughput and 600 Mbps VPN throughput and are powered by Fireware XTM Pro, an advanced OS that provides flexibility, redundancy, and reliability.

The council's WatchGuard infrastructure is rounded out by two Firebox X Core 1250 and two Firebox X Core 1000 devices. These integrate application layer content inspection, and include WAN and VPN failover to increase performance, redundancy, and reliability. At the same time, real-time monitoring and reporting give an unprecedented view into network security activity, allowing the council IT team to take immediate preventive or corrective actions.

"With the City of Stirling employing 850 staff and running recreation centres, libraries, child care facilities and the usual range of municipal facilities at 26 different locations, the IT team leaves nothing to chance and the robust quality of the WatchGuard product has proven its strength year after year.

"The external penetration tests haven't got anywhere near the firewalls with the WatchGuard architecture again and again proving its capability to throw back any potential attacks. The firewalls are indeed providing a great return on investment to the City," says Peter Bennington, Chief Technology Officer, Corporate Information Services, City of Stirling.

With a thriving population fast approaching 193,300 and a total land area of over 100 square kilometres, the City of Stirling is one of Western Australia's major local government authorities and the largest local government authority by population in the state.

"Depending on what firewall you put in, it can be a significant overhead. WatchGuard is cost-effective. It is robust, works well and its ease of use ensures that the IT team can focus on planning for tomorrow's City of Stirling rather than working behind the scenes handling day-to-day technical problems," says Bennington.

About WatchGuard Technologies, Inc.

Since 1996, WatchGuard Technologies, Inc. has been the advanced technology leader of network security solutions, providing mission-critical security to hundreds of thousands of businesses worldwide. The WatchGuard family of wired and wireless unified threat management appliances and WatchGuard SSL VPN remote access solutions provide extensible network security, unparalleled network visibility, management and control.

WatchGuard products are backed by WatchGuard LiveSecurity Service, an innovative support, maintenance, and education program. WatchGuard is headquartered in Seattle and has offices serving North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Latin America. To learn more, visit

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