

Tai Po Sam Yuk Secondary School



Different Level of Authorization Will Help Schools to Prevent the Loss of Confidential Data

Tai Po Sam Yuk Secondary School

Tai Po Sam Yuk Secondary School ("TPSY") is a Direct Subsidy Scheme Christian co-educational school operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. TPSY has been serving the community since 1956. The mission motto of TPSY is to strive for excellence, to restore in man the image of his Maker, and to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created. TPSY strives to provide a Christian holistic education to our students which will assure them of a balanced spiritual, intellectual, physical, and social development. This will enable them to grow towards their full potential and to benefit the society.

Challenges in Digital School

With the rapid development of information technologies in education, Schools are progressively using internet and intranet as a teaching and learning platform for students. This also serves as a better communications platform between the school and the parents in order to keep parents updated with the student's school life and their learning progress. However, the convenience in internet will inevitably lead to some network security problems like unauthorized service login and denied of service attack. These problems will in turn affect the stability of the school server and may be lead to the lost of confidential information with serious consequences.

Due to the increased expectation on the education level, the high loading of the teachers' preparation works and different teaching tools are required. In order to provide a better platform for teachers to prepare the works at both school and at home, TPSY would like to seek for help in setting up a more secure network which can have a better network monitoring in order to provide a room for the teachers to transfer files at home to the school server which will help them work in a less pressured environment.

Solutions

Miss Liu, IT coordinator of Tai Po Sam Yuk Secondary School said, "The price and performance of the product, and the service quality provided by the supplier are the main concerns in choosing IT products and services. After much deliberation of the referral from other IT companies, TPSY has appointed New Sky as their service provider. New Sky is a professional company that provides quality service with a reasonable price. New Sky will advise the client with tailor made solutions in order to tackle different technical problems, like compatibility, durability, etc.

Miss Liu also mentioned that TPSY previously used the Juniper SSG 5 model as their firewall. However, it cannot support the drastically upturn of traffic. New Sky has recommended TPSY to upgrade their existing hardware to Juniper SSG 140 model, which can deliver more than 350Mbps of firewall traffic, so as to increase the stability of the network and to exalt its best performance.

Apart from the infrastructure consultation, New Sky's "Hardware On Loan" service can also be treated as a backup for TPSY. New Sky can lend the same model hardware to the client in case there is a network problem like network shut down. An extra hardware as standby costs extra money which may increase the financial burden of school.

Apart from the problems of network security and stability, TPSY would also like to re-classify the login authorization for students, admin and teachers etc., with different levels of authority in accessing different zones of the network. For example, students with low authorization can only enjoy limited access in order to protect the network security and to prohibit students from browsing objectionable materials at school. Teachers with higher authorization can enjoy more access, like access into the school server and authorized to save or edit the documents through IPSec VPN client Juniper SSG 140 model at home. The user friendly guidelines help teachers to fully-utilize the software in order to enhance its effectiveness. The encryption of the remote internet service can also help to guarantee the data security within the system.

Conclusion

Most school networks focus on network security, network accessibility and the implementation of authorization levels. New Sky's the most reliable partners like Juniper Networks and its products, with different features and strengths, can provide a full service solution to different network problems. Like Juniper SSG 140, it is a purpose-built, modular security platform that delivers more than 350Mbps of firewall traffic and 100Mbps of IPSec VPN. It can be treated as a network security system and it is capable with other software. The Juniper SSG 140 model can help to prevent any data loss if used properly. Juniper SSG 140 model is suitable for school network and it is practical for a budget choice.