

RMIT University protects their email with Mimecast email security

Challenge: After a strategic review of RMIT University’s information technology services highlighted a range of opportunities for innovation, the Australia-based institution embarked on a five-year plan to bolster its IT and information-security. In particular, the university wanted to update the way it managed its email systems, which service 260,000 students, staff and alumni across 13 countries.

University networks are designed to be open and accessible to meet the dynamic and collaborative way students, academics and researchers work together. The university wanted to change its approach to email security that would align with its growing student numbers, increasingly global operations and expanding online education portfolio.

“We’re not just a university that delivers education through bricks and mortar, but also are increasing our study options for students—and digital plays a key role in that,” said Tony Aramze, Chief Information Security Officer, RMIT University. “Just as for many businesses, email is a key tool, so ensuring it is constantly available and protected is vital.”

Solution: An extensive market assessment, which included discussions with other universities facing similar challenges, led RMIT University to evaluate and select the Mimecast Secure Email Gateway with Targeted Threat Protection.

RMIT staff and Mimecast experts worked together to migrate the University’s email infrastructure onto the Mimecast cloud platform. The close working relationship



At a glance

- RMIT University supports 260,000 email users across 13 countries
- Requirement to build a collaborative and flexible security environment
- Improved detection ensures availability and security of email as a core business tool
- Better email filtering supports control of data and data loss prevention goals

Company

Established in 1887, RMIT University is a global university of technology, design and enterprise known for its instruction in architecture; engineering; computer science and information systems, amongst others. Its courses are delivered to 260,000 students across six campuses and partner programs in 13 countries.

Products

Mimecast Secure Email Gateway with Targeted Threat Protection

helped quickly address issues as they came up, ensuring a smooth implementation that has been completed across the university's massive email environment.

Implementation was complemented by user awareness campaigns, stronger access controls and the continued tuning of the platform to support data loss prevention objectives.

"We opted for Mimecast as the best-in-class solution to help bring us forward," Aramze said, "and the investment we've made to date has paid for itself. Universities are all about collaboration and information sharing, and we needed to introduce security in a way that does not disrupt how staff and students operate – but, at the same time, ensure they receive a high level of security control."

Summary: Implementation of the Mimecast Secure Email Gateway improved RMIT's detection capability and immediately reduced a range of manual security processes. In one recent month, the Mimecast platform filtered 12.6 million emails, rejecting 54 percent of the inbound messages.

"Mimecast has been well received by the user community," said Aramze, "and to a certain extent the users have not even been aware of the change. It has seamlessly integrated with our operating environment, and has proved to be adaptive and flexible for our future needs."

Benefits

- Improved RMIT's detection capability
- Immediately reduced a range of manual security processes
- In one month, the Mimecast platform filtered 12.6 million emails, rejecting 54% of the inbound messages.
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