

**The Organization**

Library Systems & Services, LLC
12850 Middlebrook Road
Suite 400
Germantown, MD 20874
(800) 638-8725
www.lssi.com

This case study highlights the deployments of a SonicWALL® E-Class Network Security Appliance (NSA) E7500 and SonicWALL TZ gateway firewall appliances by Library Systems & Services, LLC (LSSI), a nationwide provider of outsourced library management services, for the Riverside County Library System in California.

SonicWALL spoke with Luther Brady, IT Manager for Riverside County Library System and West Coast Director of Automation for LSSI, about the network security challenges he faces, and how his organization has integrated SonicWALL E-Class NSA and TZ appliances into a comprehensive network security solution.

Q.: What unique types of issues do you face securing library networks?

A.: Performance is critical. At multiple public libraries with hundreds of workstations, there can be massive traffic volumes at peak times during the day, like when the doors first open or when school lets out.

Q.: How have you configured the library network for Riverside County?

A.: Our central hub has a 1 GB Internet connection through the SonicWALL NSA E7500 at our central hub, with eleven remote sites connecting via DSL or cable through a SonicWALL TZ appliance over 1.5 MB T1 Frame Relay connections. We will soon be upgrading to fiber.

Q.: What made you originally consider a SonicWALL E-Class solution?

A.: We tried upgrading from 100 MB to 1 GB throughput using our Cisco® 7200, but we could not implement a configuration in the 7200 that would not bog down the NAT required by the significantly added traffic. The Cisco solutions we considered were too costly, and we weren't confident in a Nortel® solution's functionality.

Q.: How has the SonicWALL NSA E7500 helped resolve your NAT issues?

A.: With the Cisco 7200, we had about 30 MB of Internet throughput when we used NAT. With the SonicWALL NSA E7500, even using NAT under full load, we were able to use the full 1 GB of throughput at our hub, which is also the location of our library automation system and Web servers. In our current configuration, we're running the NSA E7500 at about 40 percent capacity.

Q.: How did deployment go?

A.: It came up quickly and we couldn't be happier. It's very easy to use.

Q.: What types of traffic is the SonicWALL NSA E7500 filtering?

A.: With about two-thirds of our users being public patrons, the vast majority is Web traffic. The other third, being staff users, also have client/server traffic for library automation system functions, such as online cataloging, circulation, and acquisitions; e-mail and a training application; as well as various texting applications. Once the fiber is deployed, we also plan to add Voice over IP (VoIP).

Library Systems & Services, LLC (LSSI) Case Study

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—Luther Brady
IT Manager
Riverside County Library System
and West Coast Director of
Automation for LSSI



Q.: How have you implemented site-to-site virtual private networks (VPNs) to your remote sites?

A.: Many of our sites need more bandwidth than the Frame T1s can provide and fiber bandwidth is still a future. We've configured VPNs between the TZ devices and the SonicWALL E7500 to bring secure staff communications into the library network over the public DSL and Cable Internet connections. Public Wireless PCs go directly to the Internet through the SonicWALL devices without coming back to the hub. This separates secured from unsecured traffic. It works like a charm.

Q.: What security services are you running?

A.: We run the SonicWALL Comprehensive Gateway Security Suite, and use Application Firewall to block illegal peer-to-peer traffic. By default, we apply content filtering to screen inappropriate materials, although registered adult patrons may request unfiltered access, according to policy settings on the NSA E7500.

Q.: How has the NSA SonicWALL E7500 architecture specifically affected performance?

A.: Our network has thousands of processes operating simultaneously, and only SonicWALL was able to handle securing them. No other vendor we considered was able to do that.

Case Study Solution Spotlight

The SonicWALL E-Class Network Security Appliance (NSA) E7500

As the flagship of the E-Class NSA product family, the SonicWALL E-Class Network Security Appliance (NSA) E7500 is designed to be the most scalable, reliable, and highly performing multifunction threat appliance in its class. The NSA E7500 protects against a vast spectrum of network attacks using a parallel performance 16-core architecture for unprecedented ultra-high-speed threat protection, reliability and scalability.

The SonicWALL TZ Series

The SonicWALL TZ Series is a total security platform for home, small, remote and branch offices. The TZ Series delivers industry leading Unified Threat Management (UTM) network protection services to detect and remove threats. The TZ Series provides unparalleled throughput performance, cost-effective yet uncompromising UTM security, high speed IPSec and SSL VPN, and optional 802.11b/g/n wireless and 3G wireless broadband.

SonicWALL, Inc.

2001 Logic Drive
San Jose, CA 95124

T +1 408.745.9600
F +1 408.745.9300

www.sonicwall.com

