



CHECK POINT AND SYCOMP

Network, Endpoints and Email Servers – Cyber Security for School Systems



PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION

Sycomp and Check Point have a deep track record of serving the global cybersecurity marketplace over the past three decades. **Sycomp** is known internationally for delivering and implementing complex IT solutions. Check Point is known for its breadth of security coverage with a "prevention first" implementation across cloud, data centers and hybrid network environments. Together, **Sycomp** and Check Point help organizations proactively detect threats, remediate with a unified security solution and recover faster.

OVERVIEW OF CUSTOMER

Marple Newtown School District is a K-12 public school district in southeastern Pennsylvania with four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. The district provides accelerated and Advanced Placement (AP) courses and excels in visual and performing arts.

CHALLENGE

Cyber attackers are increasingly targeting schools. In the U.S. education sector, ransomware incidents in particular have sharply risen in recent months. For the Marple Newtown School District, safeguarding students' and employees' personal, academic, financial and health data has grown increasingly complex as threats continue to escalate.

Over the course of a year, the district engaged with **Sycomp**, a Check Point partner, to analyze its security infrastructure and evaluate new solutions that fit within its resources and budget. "We assisted the district with their analysis, implementing demonstrations and proof of concept deployments," said Ryan Storbeck, global account manager for **Sycomp**. "We compared results with the incumbent solutions and quickly saw that Check Point was catching things which other solutions failed to detect."

OUR SOLUTION





OUR SOLUTION









"Sycomp is a global IT solution provider, helping customers with a complete end-to-end solution in data and cloud security. Our goal is to reduce complexity and be that 'all-in-one' client advocate for our customers."

Ryan Storbeck, Global Account Manager for Sycomp

SOLUTION

On **Sycomp's** recommendation, Christopher Lee, director of IT at Marple School District, chose several Check Point solutions to execute the district's security roadmap through a unified platform approach. "Check Point gives us an all-inone solution that enables us to take a holistic approach to security," said Lee. "We have comprehensive capabilities at our fingertips that integrate seamlessly, and with a 360-degree view, we can protect every aspect of our environment."

First, Lee onboarded Check Point's Infinity Network Detection and Response (NDR), a plug-and-play solution that allows his team to quickly discover and remediate malware, phishing, data exfiltration, zero-days and other threats. After an easy configuration, they gained real-time, network-wide visibility within minutes of going live. Having shored up the district's network security posture, Lee's next concern was addressing the security of Marple Newtown's email servers. Operationalizing Harmony Email and Collaboration, which reduces the number of phishing attacks that reach the inbox by an average of 99.2%, was a giant step forward in the team's effort to secure its lines of communication. "What's so unique and impressive is how it actually looks at the emails and extracts malicious software from attachments," he said.

For perimeter protection, Lee selected Quantum Security Gateways based on their ability to guard against the most sophisticated cyber threats. One of his favorite Quantum features has been SandBlast Zero-Day protection, which provides comprehensive protection against emerging threats while reducing overhead and driving team productivity. "We rely especially on SandBlast for threat emulation and extraction, anti-ransomware and forensic components," he said. By detecting and sandboxing zero-day threats in real-time, SandBlast preemptively sanitizes email and web downloads for the district's users.

Rounding off the district's Check Point solution stack is Harmony Endpoint, which defends servers, desktops and laptops from breaches and data compromise district-wide. "Quantum and Harmony Endpoint give us far greater confidence in our security," said Lee. This flexible solution allows the IT team to tailor its features to the unique requirements of any device or use case. For example, while elementary and secondary schools may activate malware protection for their endpoints, secondary schools can also use URL blocking and other features that serve their specific needs.





OUTCOME

With the help of **Sycomp's** engineering and training support, the district's IT team quickly got up to speed with their new Check Point solutions — and the results were immediate. Within a few hours of onboarding, Infinity NDR alerted the team to a rogue server that had been invisible to its previous security solutions. Not only did Infinity NDR identify the device, but it also provided the team with actionable information. "With Check Point Infinity NDR, we have full visibility across the entire internal network, which we lacked before," said Lee. "Immediately, we were able to locate and decommission the server, which was sending out key logging and other data to an external source."

Since onboarding their Check Point solution stack, Lee has been able to automate and streamline his team's workflows with minimal friction. "Despite security being so complex, Check Point made it very easy to understand," said Lee. "From the user interface to implementation techniques and how it works, it was really easy to grasp."

For a team that has much ground to cover, the ability to do more with less has been crucial. Check Point's best-in-class technology solutions help his team minimize unnecessary manual effort by automatically detecting even the most advanced attacks — and reducing false positives. And with the expert guidance of Check Point's responsive support team, he knows his team is getting the most out of its security stack. "A key benefit of Check Point is the support and the knowledge base they provide us, not only from a technology standpoint but also in best practices," he said.

CUSTOMER RESPONSE

Sycomp and Check Point serve many markets together, including the education sector. Customers have applauded both companies for taking a holistic approach to security. With comprehensive capabilities at their fingertips, customers gain a 360-degree view and the ability to protect every aspect of their digital environments. **Sycomp** delivers a wide array of services to help customers get up and running — from proof of concept to training and implementation support.

ABOUT SYCOMP

Sycomp is a global IT services and logistics provider with extensive expertise in cloud, data center, endpoint management and security solutions. Sycomp's diverse team of consultants and engineers deliver on the company's mission to tackle challenging global IT projects through its state-of-the-art integration, warehouse centers and global technology partnerships. Headquartered in the heart of Silicon Valley, California, Sycomp has successfully shipped, deployed and managed complex IT projects and supporting assets in more than 150 countries, helping its Fortune 500 customers and global partners realize a world without boundaries. Visit **sycomp.com** for more information.

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