



Advanced Communications Stops Their Customers' Networks from Being Attacked

Region's Leading Unified Communications Provider Protects Their Customers' Valuable Information with Robust Solutions Designed to Safeguard Data Networks

MORRISTOWN, TN — November 30, 2009 — Attacks on an organization's data network occur on a frequent basis. This may come in the form of viruses, spyware or phishing. Many small to mid-sized businesses are missing the necessary technology to properly defend their critical information. As a result, Advanced Communications is delivering robust solutions such as email security, web defense and off site data backup applications that create a solid fortrace to combat everyday threats.

"One of the easiest avenues to penetrate a company's network is through email," commented Terry Fishburn, President of Advanced Communications. "Unwanted email continues to rise every year and as this occurs the threat to the network dramatically increases. The negative affect includes decreased employee productivity and downtime as well as the monetary costs associated with fixing the network if it's penetrated. Therefore, we have introduced to our customers a fully managed email defense software that provides perimeter-based security."

The intuitive solution offers a variety of benefits including spam blocking, virus and worm scanning, and email attack and fraud protection. The software also presents the network administrator with a number user friendly reports designed to aide in making the necessary changes to effectively deal with new threats. This must have business application manages, monitors and protects an organization's email 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Additionally, Advanced Communications offers a web defense

solution that proactively zeros in on spyware, viruses and phishing attacks. Web defense safeguards the entire network including remote users and adapts to the latest threats that occur. Companies benefit immediately after its implementation. For example, web defense reduces unproductive web surfing, network congestion, and employee downtime. It protects against vicious attacks and potential fraud, lowers the risk of confidential information leaks, identifies spyware-infected computers, and increases web visibility because it determines how end users spend their time on the web. However, the most important benefit is that it eliminates the time spent by IT professionals on threat management and enables them to focus on achieving strategic business objectives.

According to a survey conducted by *Continuity Insights* magazine, KPMG Risk Advisory Services, and The Hartford's Guide to Emergency Preparedness, more than 25% of all businesses experience a significant crisis in any given year – of those that do not have a data recovery plan, 43% will not re-open. The practice of storing information, the heart and lifeblood of any organization, onto data tapes locally and having someone take them home for safekeeping is an outdated and dangerous practice. Advanced Communications provides an off site data backup solution in the event the network goes down. This tool automatically and securely backs up all of an organization's data directly to the onsite appliance while simultaneously backing up a copy to the offsite storage application. This solution eliminates the need to store and manage data tapes, reduces the expensive hardware needed to maintain those tapes, and increases the recovery speed of lost data.

"Advances in threat protection has come to a point where it's extremely

cost effective for any business to secure their most critical asset. As our customers' trusted technology advisor we strongly encourage all organizations to take advantage of these solutions because it gives every business owner the peace of mind that their network and information are secure," commented Mr. Fishburn.

ABOUT ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS

Advanced Communications, Inc. is a full-service, telecommunications company serving customers throughout East Tennessee. Since 1985, Advanced Communications has experienced strong, continual growth as the company evolved into the region's telecom leader. The company is dedicated to providing businesses of all sizes with innovative technology solutions that increase profitability, enhance employee productivity, and give them a competitive advantage in their marketplace.

Advanced Communications offers an array of voice and data solutions from industry leading manufacturers including Toshiba, ShoreTel, and ESI. Additionally, Advanced Communications provides businesses with a variety of comprehensive Partner Protection Plans designed to ensure quality system performance and exceptional technical support delivered by factory certified and highly skilled technicians. Advanced Communications also provides connectivity services as an Authorized AT&T Solutions Provider. For over twenty years, Advanced Communications has offered services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with emergency service guaranteed within 2 hours. For more information about Advanced Communications call (423) 586-8624 or visit www.aci-tn.com.