

The benefits of securing data stored and transmitted via gadgets used away from the office are obvious, but implementation is difficult. By **Peter Stephenson**

This may be the toughest group review we've had in a long time. This wasn't because of the products, but because of the infrastructures required to make everything work well. Talking to other people who have implemented this functionality confirmed our experience. If you're

thinking of going down this route, make sure you are ready, understand the infrastructure requirements and have at least twice the implementation time that your schedule calls for.

What we're talking about is not simple endpoint security, although some of the products we looked at

do that. The devices we sought to secure included wireless handhelds such as BlackBerrys. Some are considered PDAs, others smartphones. What they have in common is that they contain and transmit sensitive information over public data networks. They protect information at rest and in motion.

DeviceWall v4.6



Supplier Centennial Software
Price £13.50 per seat
Contact centennial-software.com

DeviceWall has many applications for both portable device security and endpoint security and management. As far as portable security goes, DeviceWall includes both the ability to stop transfer of data based on security policy and to encrypt data that needs to be transmitted.

When we reviewed this product last year, we were impressed by how easy it was to set up and manage. We are happy to see not much has changed in this regard. Setup is simple, guided by an easy-to-follow wizard that includes all the necessary configuration steps for Active

Directory integration and database setup. It also incorporates a version of the lightweight MSDE database software for smaller deployments. Once the setup is complete, all management is done through the intuitive console, and setting up policy is done in just a few quick clicks of the mouse.

With direct tie-ins to Active Directory, this product makes managing the use of portable devices easy and efficient. Once a security policy is pushed out to a specific device class and set of users, it is instantly enforceable throughout the entire domain and can even be configured for offline access.

The documentation is well written and easy to understand. The step-by-step instructions assist in deployment and configuration of the product. Administrators will appreciate the use of good quality screenshots that accompany the literature.

Centennial offers phone and email support. In addition, there is a website that contains downloads, technical documentation, a knowledge

base and a user forum.

At £13.50, Centennial's DeviceWall is licensed on a per-seat basis and the seat count is typically comprised of the number of desktops, workstations, laptops and servers, where a customer expects an acceptable use policy to be enforced with regards to the transfer of files to removable storage devices. The pricing is based on a sliding per-seat scale, with discounts built in for larger purchases. A 100-seat installation would have a very acceptable list price of £1,350.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Features	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Ease of Use	★★★★★
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for Money	★★★★★
OVERALL RATING	★★★★★
For Easy-to-deploy and manage portable device encryption	
Against Nothing we found during this group test	
Verdict For its strong feature set, ease of use and good value we rate DeviceWall our Best Buy	

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Reprints

Strong feature set, easy to use and good value

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