



Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust consolidates with Sophos and renews for another five years

Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT) was formed in April 2017 following the merger of North Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust and South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust. EPUT provides community health, mental health, and learning disability services for a population of approximately 1.3 million people throughout Bedfordshire, Essex, and Suffolk.

CUSTOMER-AT-A-GLANCE



Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT)

Industry
Healthcare

Website
<https://eput.nhs.uk>

Number of Users
6,300 members of staff
across 200 sites

Sophos Solutions
Central Intercept X Advanced with EDR
Central Intercept X Advanced for Server
Central Device Encryption

When North Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust and South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust merged in 2017, one was using McAfee and the other Sophos. When software and systems were consolidated, the new Trust, Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT) decided to stop using McAfee and make a wholesale move to Sophos. The Trust has since moved from on-premises management to Sophos Cloud, the newer, cloud-based console.

Intro

In 2017, Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust chose Sophos over McAfee. Read this case study to find out why they moved IT security to Sophos and why, in 2019, they renewed their contract with Sophos for another five years.

Business challenges

Consolidation of NHS systems and processes across Essex took place in 2017. IT security was one area where a decision needed to be made regarding which solutions to continue using. With such a large estate, multiple sites, and thousands of users, challenges were expected. Yet, according to Perry Barnes, cyber security engineer at EPUT, "with Sophos, everything has fallen into place."

The technical solution

EPUT has installed Windows 10 ATP, working alongside NHS Digital, and the migration was far easier than the team expected. Sophos provides an additional layer of protection by sitting in front of Windows 10 ATP for in-depth defence. The Sophos solutions protecting EPUT include:

- Central Intercept X Advanced with EDR
- Central Intercept X Advanced for Server
- Central Device Encryption

'Everything feels so safe, it gives us reassurance that we can go to lunch without worrying about what's going on – or even on holiday.'

Perry Barnes
Cyber Security Engineer
Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust



Business benefits

Day-to-day management of the combined Windows 10 ATP and Sophos set-up is easy, with automatic alerts, blocking, cleaning and deleting files, as well as simple policy setup. "It deals with nine out of 10 instances automatically," says Perry. "We feel like everything is safe, reliable, and secure."

Perry is also impressed with SophosLabs, Sophos' own threat research lab. SophosLabs delivers industry-leading intelligence so the team at EPUT can act swiftly if they ever need to. "It's a great and almost instant source of global security information," says Perry.

Sophos was very easy to set up, with no training required apart from one webinar. EPUT has only called Sophos on four occasions for assistance, and each time remote support has been provided with a fast response time.

Perry highly recommends Sophos to other NHS Trusts. He is particularly impressed with Central Device Encryption – managing BitLocker Encryption – which he believes is "essential" for the higher levels of encryption required in NHS environments. He is also pleased to see that users are none the wiser to the blanket switch to Sophos and experience no difference whatsoever.

Perry and the IT team at the Trust are so impressed that they have recently renewed the contract with Sophos for another five years. "Everything feels so safe, it gives us reassurance that we can go to lunch without worrying about what's going on – or even on holiday," says Perry. "Everything works perfectly."

'The more security we have in the NHS the better, and I believe that Sophos is one of the best pieces of security software available. We see a lot of value in Sophos and it's also great value for money.'

Perry Barnes
Cyber Security Engineer
Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

To find out more about
Sophos solutions,
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