Building a cybersecure and sustainable future
World-class technology, threat intelligence and customer service combine to provide cybersecurity trust and confidence for one of the UAE’s powerhouse businesses.

The Al Naboodah Group, founded in 1958, is a prestigious international business conglomerate based in Dubai.

The group has interests in sectors including agriculture, civil engineering, construction, energy, logistics, real estate, travel and tourism and vehicles. It employs more than 10,000 people of 47 different nationalities.

Sustainability is at the heart of the group’s philosophy and operations. Its ‘Smart Cities’ business helps property developers and transport authorities increase efficiencies and develop sustainable infrastructure through automation and the use of electronic vehicle technologies.

Challenge

Given the scope, scale and diversity of its business interests, its many partnerships and collaborations and its enviable international reputation, maintaining a sophisticated and comprehensive IT security profile is a top priority for Al Naboodah.

In recent years, the group has completely modernized and standardized its IT infrastructure to meet the needs of the digital age. IT is now a business enabler rather than a support function and its technology is fully aligned with business goals, configured to provide great services for its users.

Its IT security risks are those common to most large businesses, with busy teams needing to stay connected and productive in the office and on the move. The group’s involvement in many substantial, often ground-breaking projects, means that the need for data security is paramount.

As a result, its headquarters-based IT security team works hard to protect the business from potentially damaging cybersecurity attacks caused by employees falling victim to email phishing attacks, visiting unsafe web pages or using insecure third-party networks.

The Kaspersky solution

To bolster its security stance, Al Naboodah selected Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business Advanced.

“We evaluated multiple solutions from a number of standpoints – the technology used, the historical achievement of each solution and the commercial factor,” says Mario Foster, the group’s award-winning Executive Director of IT.

“We were particularly impressed with the lightweight impact that Kaspersky Endpoint Security has on the systems it is protecting and the many features it has to manage systems from a centralized console.

“We now use Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business Advanced across the whole of Al Naboodah Group. It’s been performing very well, with no issues at all. In my opinion, its strengths are its endpoint advanced protection features, the well-developed centralized management console and the fact that it’s easy to use.

“The Exploit Prevention feature is particularly valuable, as Windows exploits are increasing day after day and to patch all end users’ machines on time is hard. This is a very helpful feature to protect end users from zero-day vulnerabilities.

“And the management console is very good, with lots of functionality that’s easy to use. We value the reports that are available too, giving us a lot of information about endpoint status and/or events, even when the endpoint is outside the corporate network.”

“In my opinion, with endpoint security the most important aspect is always the speed and expertise of the support team and Kaspersky delivers both.”

Mario Foster
Executive Director of IT
Al Naboodah Group

Construction
- Dubai, UAE
- Using Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business Advanced.
- 15 companies in the group
- 10,000 direct employees
- 47 nationalities in its team
Speed and expertise

Mario Foster points to examples of both the quality of Kaspersky technology and its customer service to explain why he sees a long-term partnership between the two companies.

*During a WannaCry ransomware cybersecurity attack, our Kaspersky solution helped us weeks ahead of time by identifying and highlighting on our console any missing operating system patches and any end user machines missing critical patches. This information helped us prepare for WannaCry because we had taken the necessary preventive maintenance ahead of time.

*And then during the COVID-19 pandemic, with pressures on all businesses, we started looking at savings opportunities. Though we had many approaches and offers of attractive deals to switch to other solutions, we really wanted to stay with Kaspersky. I was pleased that Kaspersky was very supportive of our situation and that we were able to find a way to continue together.

*This was very important, as we need to work with a company like Kaspersky that is always at the top of the technology field, which understands our environment well and the structure we have in place. This makes it much easier for its experts to quickly advise us of the best solution design that perfectly fits our own setup.

*What distinguishes Kaspersky is the fact that it always tries to be ahead of others in terms of the latest technology and reading the future of cybersecurity, which really gives the company an edge on others.

*Support is good and Kaspersky responds quickly, especially during critical situations. In my opinion, with endpoint security the most important aspect is always the speed and expertise of the support team and Kaspersky delivers both.