Archer wells futureproofs its IT solution
Archer is a global oilfield service company specialising in drilling new wells and maximising production of oil and gas from existing wells.

Now based in Houston, Texas, Archer was established in 2011. Archer’s drilling teams and specialist engineers operate on more than 38 offshore platforms and over 77 mobile land rigs in North and South America, Europe and the Middle East, Asia Pacific and West Africa.

Challenge

The oil and gas industry is the engine that drives modern society, supplying energy to power industries and heat homes, fuel for transporting goods and people all over the world and the raw materials for thousands of everyday products.

With the huge investment required to bring oil and gas safely to the surface, delays or loss of production can have serious financial repercussions.

And the fluctuating global price of oil and gas has a direct and immediate impact on income and employment levels for businesses in the sector.

Archer’s IT Manager for North America is Jason Klank, a Texan with 25 years’ experience in IT and computing in property management, telecoms and, for the past eight years, in oil and gas. “It’s really important that our IT systems are operating reliably and securely,” says Klank.

“The most effective IT security begins with the education of employees about how to work safely and to avoid sources of danger online.

“But of course some people assume that they are going to be safe, others make mistakes or may not recognise risks and so we work hard to have the best protection we can in place to minimise the chances of malware and virus attacks and the negative impacts that result.”

When the end of the contract with Archer’s existing endpoint security provider coincided with the beginning of a steep decline in global oil prices, it was even more important to identify a partner able to deliver high quality, cost-effective protection with an advanced level of automation to cope with an inevitable reduction in head count.

“The Kaspersky Lab solution has done a great job and we are very happy. For example we have gone from dealing with issues on a weekly basis to an average of one every month. We have saved between 8 and 12 hours a month, which is very valuable time and money.”

Jason Klank, IT Manager, Archer
The Kaspersky Lab Solution

After careful analysis of capabilities, price and ability to meet evolving requirements into the future, Klank selected Kaspersky Lab’s comprehensive endpoint security platform.

“Put simply I was looking for the best bang for our buck – and Kaspersky Lab came out top when we compared the various candidates. It was clear that the Kaspersky Lab technology provides very solid, broad protection, but there were a number of additional factors that really made them stand out for me.

“In addition to its core antivirus product, which scores extremely well in all the tests, the platform provides a wide range of additional features and capabilities which will, in time, prove very valuable for us.

“And with the way the licences are configured, those additional features are fully available for us to activate whenever we need them without having to find additional budget sometime in the future.

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“Also, the level of automation and the way updates are handled is very helpful, especially with our team in North America reducing in size. We need to work as efficiently as possible and automation of tasks is the way forward. Automatic scanning and quarantining of threats catches the vast majority of problems before they happen. All I have to do from time to time is go into the system and delete them which takes minutes and that’s a real time saver.”

Saving time and money

After productive discussions with Kaspersky Lab, Archer bought 1,000 endpoint licences and 40 virtual server licences in a three year deal. Successful internal tests with selected groups throughout the business, combined with management console training, preceded a full deployment process.

“Looking back at the first 12 months, the Kaspersky Lab solution has done a great job and we are very happy. For example, we have gone from dealing with issues on a weekly basis to an average of one every month, which is a real turnaround. I would estimate that we have saved between 8 and 12 hours a month, which is very valuable time and money,” says Jason Klank.

“Overall this is regarded as a very successful project for the business.”
7,000 employees

100+ locations