COMPREHENSIVE IT SECURITY FOR RAFI
WHERE MAN AND MACHINE WORK TOGETHER, CONCENTRATION AND PRECISION NORMALLY GO HAND IN HAND.

To ensure that information can be transmitted seamlessly between users and devices, Rafi GMBH Co. KG develops and produces electromechanical and electronic components and systems for communication between humans and machines. It security is an important issue for the company.

Founded in 1900 as the ‘Institut für Elektrotechnik, Optik & Mechanik’, the company, which was renamed after Raimund Finsterhölzl (RaFi), is now based in Berg near Ravensburg and is a major manufacturer with around 2,000 employees.

The comprehensive product range and coverage which extends beyond Germany to Hungary, China and the USA makes RAFI a genuinely international company. Its customers come from various sectors, including mechanical engineering, telecommunications and the automotive industry.

Challenge
With mirrored data centres at the main site, around 2,000 client workstations and some 500 physical and virtual servers holding around 400TB of information, RAFI has a very complex IT infrastructure.

Manufacturing & distribution
- Founded in 1900
- Headquartered in Berg, Germany
- Using Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business
“We needed to coordinate the switchover to the Kaspersky Lab solution with our IT departments in various countries. This was a real challenge, especially given the ambitious schedule. But we still achieved our project targets without issues.”

Jürgen Straub, ITI Team Leader at RAfi GmbH & Co. KG

In order to make sure that this network remains stable and communication works seamlessly, the IT security solution needs to be pretty impressive. As well as the Windows® and Linux operating systems and SAP and Microsoft® products used, the system also needs to protect various production-related and customer specific software systems. The customer-related solutions, in particular, need specifically programmed protection.

The Kaspersky Lab Solution
When the maintenance contract with the provider of the previous security solution expired in December 2013, RAfi decided to rethink its IT security. The requirements for a new software system were extensive. Not only did the implementation need to be smooth, working with the solution needed to be as uncomplicated as possible, even during live operation, and it needed to be controlled from a clear administration console. A high malware detection rate and scalability were also important to RAfi. As well as its expectations of the software, RAfi also valued a long-standing market presence for the provider and ongoing support. Kaspersky Lab won the company’s trust as a security expert that could meet all these criteria.

Individual adjustments implemented quickly
The move to Kaspersky Lab took place the same month. After installing and configuring the Kaspersky Lab Security Center, the security software was set up on various test clients and servers. When packaging the individual Kaspersky Lab installation units, compliance with a solution for desktop and server management needed to be guaranteed. Following the rollout, the IT managers merely adjusted a few guidelines in the Kaspersky Lab Security Center. Overall, the learning time for the IT administrators took about a week and was without incident.
Precision work despite a strict schedule

The tight schedule represented a real challenge. Despite the various adjustments to the software as RAFI defined exceptions and directories for trustworthy applications, the aim was to implement the project as quickly as possible. “We opted for a new provider at short notice,” explains Jürgen Straub, ITI Team Manager at RAFI GmbH & Co. KG. “Kaspersky Lab supported us with its implementation routine and excellent expert knowledge on software distribution. Everything went very quickly.”

Benefit and Result

The clear administration and the interaction of the Kaspersky Lab solution in the endpoint and server environment is a real help to the HMI specialists during their day-to-day work. Although some of the software is very specific, the IT system is comprehensively protected because the appropriate adjustments were made to the Kaspersky Lab products.

Around 500 servers and 2,000 clients are protected by Kaspersky Lab. RAFI GmbH & Co. KG now has reliable virus protection which can be expanded at any point as required.