SUNY Plattsburgh Relies on Forcepoint As a First Line of Defense

SUNY Plattsburgh needed to safeguard its network from outside threats, while allowing the free sharing of information and content critical to a university environment. The school utilizes Forcepoint Next Generation Firewalls (NGFWs) to secure the network and provide visibility to help the IT team keep it running smoothly.

Challenges
→ Maintain openness that allows students, faculty, and staff to share the content they need, while protecting the network from threats and blocking vulnerabilities.
→ Deliver visibility into network traffic to enable optimization and troubleshooting.

Approach
→ Implement Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall appliances and virtual appliances in two clusters to protect internet traffic as well as serve as an active backup in case of an outage.

Results
→ Forcepoint NGFW firewalls now act as a "first line of defense," according to IT Manager Jim Lucas. "We use it to protect our students, our faculty, our employees. But we also use it to protect our assets."
→ The number of incidents blocked by the firewalls is "too many to count—it's happening every second," said Lucas.
→ The Security Management Center provides the power and flexibility to manage the firewalls centrally and efficiently.
→ The team is able to leverage NGFW to troubleshoot application-level problems, such as desktop scanning/printer issues for example, by examining network traffic
→ By leveraging NGFW's redundancy features uptime is over 99.999%.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
PLATTSBURGH

CUSTOMER PROFILE:
The State University of New York College at Plattsburgh is a public liberal arts college in Plattsburgh, N.Y., founded in 1889.

INDUSTRY:
Education

HQ COUNTRY:
United States

PRODUCT:
Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall

"Academic freedom is really our mantra so people should be able to do anything they need to do here."

Jim Lucas,
IT Manager,
SUNY Plattsburgh