

Protection against IM-based malware and inappropriate content

Vantage Security for Lync provides fast and effective protection against IM-based malware, and helps reduce corporate liability by blocking instant messages that contain inappropriate content. It is the functional equivalent of Microsoft Forefront for OCS, except for Lync. Vantage Security for Lync differs from Actiance Vantage in that Vantage offers more features and is sold as a perpetual license. Vantage Security for Lync, however, is sold as a subscription (like Microsoft Forefront).

The Problem

Instant messaging (IM) has become a corporate staple, helping to improve productivity and foster rapid collaboration among employees, customers, and partners. Unfortunately, the ubiquitous use of instant messaging and its collaborative nature make it a potential vector for malicious code. Today, new viruses, worms, day-zero exploits, and blended threats are increasing in sophistication, speed, and frequency, and these threats are also finding new ways to propagate within corporate networks. Even though virtually every business (97 percent) has anti-virus and firewall protection, half of them (52 percent) experienced virus incidents in 2007 (CSI/FBI 2007 Survey).

Overly restrictive defense practices create their own setbacks. Scanning every instant message at every server delays delivery and wastes resources. Installing and managing multiple nonintegrated anti-virus products compounds administrative headaches. All this adds up to greater vulnerability to a single point of failure, slower message delivery, and hefty management costs.

How Vantage Security Protects Lync

Vantage Security for Lync helps organizations better protect their IM traffic from threats and out-of-policy content.

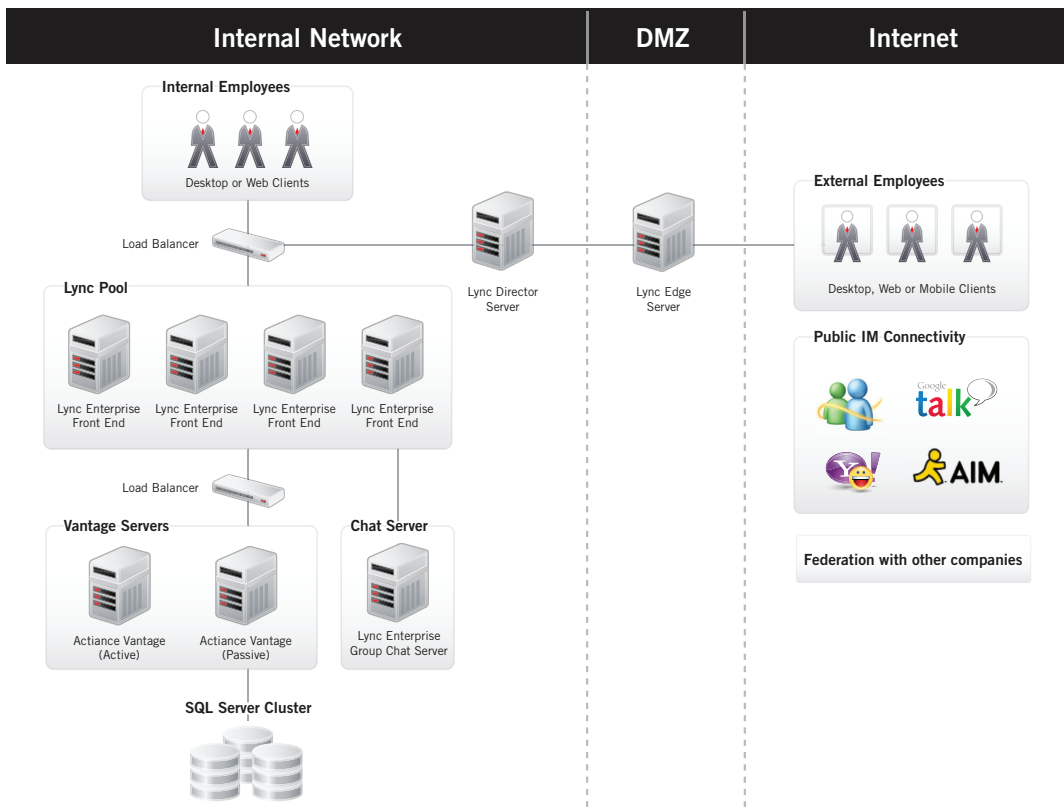
- Comprehensive anti-virus protection against the latest threats.
- Filtering of file and message content using keywords, phrases, and regular expressions reduces corporate liability by blocking content that contains inappropriate language or unauthorized corporate information.
- Maximum malware detection without compromising performance – files are scanned on the Vantage server and not on the Lync front-end.
- Simplified management of anti-virus security in enterprise messaging environments using built-in management controls and configurable notification alerts.

AT A GLANCE

Vantage™ Security for Lync helps customers protect their Microsoft Lync instant messaging environment against malware and out-of-policy content.

KEY FEATURES

- Provides virus scanning of file transfers
- Provides spam over IM (SpIM) and URL blocking
- Supports public and industry-focused IM networks for flexible deployment
- Prevents data leakage over Lync Server and public IM platforms through content filtering and regular expressions
- Enables policy setting, real-time monitoring, compliance, capture of file uploads, and application of DLP/content filtering rules



Key Benefits

- Blocks potentially dangerous file transfers**
 Applies configurable file-filtering rules to eliminate file types that are known for carrying viruses (e.g., .exe), even if the file extension has been changed. Separate filtering rules can be set for external and internal IM users, allowing organizations to block file transfers only from external sources.
- Prevents sharing of inappropriate content**
 Helps reduce company liability by using keyword filtering and regular expressions to prevent the sharing of unauthorized corporate information or out-of-policy files, or using offensive language in IM conversations.
- Optimizes content scanning for Lync**
 Integrates with the Lync application API to efficiently scan messages before they are sent to recipients. It can parse, scan, and apply policy to instant messages without users perceiving any significant delay in message delivery. Also ensures that messages are scanned only once across pooled Lync environments in both the internal and perimeter networks to eliminate redundant scans and maximize performance.
- Supports multiple server roles**
 Integrates with the Access Edge and Front End server roles in Lync to provide layered protection at multiple points in the IM infrastructure.
- Protects federated connections and public IM users**
 Ensures that all external communications are scanned for malware by integrating with Lync, including those to and from external public IM clients, federated networks, or employees connecting via remote networks.
- Simplifies management with built-in administrator console**
 Vantage Administrator enables administrators to configure settings, schedule updates, and review logs locally or remotely.
- Allows user exceptions for filtering rules**
 Offers “allow lists” that enable administrators to exclude specific users from filtering rules. For example, the CEO and CFO might be allowed to send instant messages about a confidential corporate acquisition code name, but all other conversations containing the code name would be automatically blocked.
- Provides notifications on out-of policy activity**
 Enables administrators to configure notifications that will alert both the user (through IM) and the administrator (through e-mail) when a content policy has been violated or an infected document has been sent.
- Migration protection**
 Helps protect the entire messaging environment during migration to Lync.

A-DS-026-VANTAGE-SECURITY-LYNC-0611