



## Washington Department of Ecology Keeps Computing Environment Clean and Safe Thanks to VIPRE Enterprise

### Situation

The state of Washington's Department of Ecology is charged with the mission to protect, preserve and enhance the state's environment by promoting the wise management of air, land and waste, primarily through the prevention of pollution, the clean-up of pollution and the support of sustainable communities and natural resources. To accomplish this mission, the Department employs approximately 1500 people across its main headquarters building and in ten regional and field offices located throughout the state.

John Allen serves as a Security Administrator and oversees the safety of the network's 2000+ workstations. He works closely with a desktop support individual who assists with addressing security issues that are directed at the desktop level.

### Challenge

Prior to being introduced to Sunbelt Software, the Department of Ecology was using a popular name-brand antivirus product for virus protection – with less than satisfactory results. The IT staff found that the software caught some viruses, but not all, and did not protect their network enough from malware. Overall, the organization was experiencing several infected computers per week, which required complete re-installation of operating systems – a tedious and time-consuming task. Both desktop support and security staff found that a mix of security products was difficult to centrally manage efficiently.

### Solution

The Security Team wanted to either replace the primary name-brand product they had been using, or find something to work in addition to it, to be more effective. They looked at a number of different security products from other top-known brands.

However, during initial trials of those products, John and the security team found that those products did not meet their needs because they produced slowdowns on the workstations that frustrated end-users.

Washington Department of Ecology decided to give Sunbelt a try on a few machines by initially using Sunbelt's CounterSpy Enterprise product, a pure-play antispymware solution in conjunction with their primary name-brand security software. Security and desktop support staff were impressed with CounterSpy's effectiveness. They decided to change all of their desktop security over to VIPRE Enterprise, Sunbelt's full antivirus and antispymware solution which had just been introduced. Since then, John and the Department of Ecology have been enjoying a number of advantages with VIPRE:

- **Reduced resource usage** due to the lean, fast, and efficient performance of VIPRE.
- **A Centralized Management Console** that gives at-a-glance information on all VIPRE workstations, providing a greater degree of control and opportunity for pre-emptive action when threats occur.
- **Comprehensive malware detection**, and
- **An outstanding support team** that John categorizes as "the best in the business."

### Results

VIPRE Enterprise found infections on machines in the network that had existed long before the use of any Sunbelt product. Complaints from end-users about desktop slowdowns during noontime scans have drastically diminished, and John is able to be proactive with any virus or malware threats prior to any damage being done. John finds Sunbelt's hands-on management style extremely refreshing and helpful.

*"I think the biggest advantage VIPRE Enterprise offers us is that it notifies us if there is a malware or virus threat to our computers – so we can be proactive, instead of reactive."*

*John Allen, Security Administrator, State of Washington Department of Ecology, Lacey, Washington*



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