



# McAfee Gives RPC Comprehensive Visibility into Its Critical Systems with Operational Efficiency

McAfee Security Risk Management process helps customers mitigate risk with a centralized approach to managing security risks and compliance initiatives



## At a Glance

### The industry

Oil and gas equipment services

### The customer

RPC

### The challenge

RPC required a layered security solution that would enable it to reduce exposure to security threats, demonstrate compliance by providing visibility into its existing security posture, and help avoid remediation costs associated with vulnerabilities. The additional challenge of having a small IT team required solutions that delivered operational efficiency.

### McAfee technology solutions

- McAfee Foundstone Enterprise
- McAfee Secure Internet Gateway
- McAfee ePolicy Orchestrator
- McAfee VirusScan Enterprise

## The Customer

RPC, based in Atlanta, provides services and equipment to companies involved in the exploration, production, and development of oil and gas properties. The company focuses primarily on delivering technical and support services, such as pressure pumping, well control, pipe inspection, and oil-field training, domestically and in selected international markets. Recently ranked number 26 out of 100 in *Business Week's* Hot Growth Companies list, RPC realized that with fast growth often comes higher security risk. Therefore, the company had an immediate need for a comprehensive, proven security solution.

*“Understanding the vulnerabilities and potential vulnerabilities that could impact our network before they become threats is key to the success of our IT department. RPC had to find a proven security solution that would not only provide us with that information, but also guide us in how to intelligently prioritize and respond to the most significant threats.”*

—Tony Toth, Corporate Security Office, RPC

## Customer Requirements

In order to secure its 1,000 remote users across 60 global sites and keep them productive, RPC needed a protection solution to ensure that systems were clean of security threats and not leaking confidential data. With a server network made up of 60 Microsoft® Windows® servers, RPC also demanded a security posture that enabled high network availability, bandwidth, and efficiency, making sure that spyware and adware were kept off the network.

Beyond RPC's requirement to block spyware, spam, and other inappropriate web content, the company also wanted to demonstrate security compliance via a vulnerability management solution. RPC had been identifying vulnerabilities and tackling remediation efforts manually. It needed an automated method for prioritizing assets, assessing vulnerabilities on these assets, and then planning remediation tasks.



### Benefits gained from McAfee, Inc.

- **Reduced exposure to security risks, such as spyware, viruses, and operating system vulnerabilities**
- **Asset prioritization to enable effective resource allocation for remediation**
- **Real-time visibility into and proactive protection against vulnerabilities**
- **Reduced costs and time savings through automation and centralized management**
- **Optimal management of business risk due to security threats and vulnerabilities**

The company's existing approach was expensive and inefficient for the very small team assigned to IT security. RPC knew it was time to enhance its existing security posture with a priority-based solution that would reduce risk and protect its most critical assets.

To achieve this goal, RPC knew it would have to extend its existing security approach. In 2003, RPC deployed McAfee® VirusScan® Enterprise and McAfee ePolicy Orchestrator® (ePO™) to obtain integrated anti-virus and system security technologies. Not only did this address system security threats, it also provided operational efficiency with centralized management from ePO.

Now the company's challenge was to add complementary technologies that could better detect and prioritize vulnerabilities and threats on its network—as well as minimize damage and costs—in the event something malicious leaked into its network. This would enable RPC to fully leverage the benefits of a multi-layered security architecture.

### The Solution

RPC resolved its challenge by deploying McAfee Foundstone® Enterprise (including the modules for threat correlation and remediation) and McAfee Secure Internet Gateway appliances into its layered security architecture. In integrating Secure Internet Gateway, RPC was able to leverage the power of centralized security management within ePO, thereby delivering operational efficiency. Secure Internet Gateway keeps its users productive by blocking viruses, managing access to non-business sites and peer-to-peer file sharing, filtering content, and preventing inappropriate web usage.

*“The ability of McAfee Foundstone to deliver such comprehensive vulnerability and threat protection was compelling. Through the solution's proactive discovery and notification of vulnerabilities—including intelligence on the impacted applications and associated patches—along with its capability to automatically notify the RPC administration staff, we felt confident that our business risks were being optimally managed.”*

—Tony Toth, Corporate Security Office, RPC

RPC clearly understands the value of security risk management in minimizing business risks, in this particular case via vulnerability management. When initially comparing McAfee against competitive vulnerability management technologies, RPC found that Foundstone was more intuitive, offering an easy-to-understand interface and reporting. This usability would help cut down expenses associated with system training for the RPC staff, further enhancing operational efficiencies. The depth of functionality offered by the remediation module was also a key criterion in RPC's decision.

Lastly, the McAfee solution allowed RPC to keep its vital security information in-house rather than sending it off-site (which ended up being one final business requirement).



By adding McAfee Foundstone Enterprise and Secure Internet Gateway to its existing ePO and VirusScan infrastructure, RPC was able to block spyware, viruses, and other threats; automate and integrate the process of detecting vulnerabilities and threats; and create intelligent remediation priorities. The company also benefited from operational efficiency by leveraging ePO for the management of anti-virus and gateway security, along with automated vulnerability management with McAfee Foundstone. RPC finally had the sufficient visibility and controls required to make smarter, faster, and more cost-effective decisions for managing security risks.

RPC also turned to Evigi Technologies, a McAfee SecurityAlliance™ partner, for strategic planning, on-site installation, configuration services, and training.

### The Result

McAfee's Security Risk Management process provided RPC with the necessary intelligence, protection, and assurance that its network and global user communities were secure, easy to manage, and productive. RPC achieved both overall efficiency in its security operations and increased bandwidth on its network. Not only does RPC have the key security posture information it needs, it can quickly react in a way that reduces its overall security exposure.

With McAfee Foundstone, RPC is putting compliance management into action by utilizing the available RPC IT resources. RPC has eliminated its inefficient, manual threat-management and response processes so that its IT security team can focus on the most critical assets and threats. RPC can now set appropriate priorities for its team, saving itself significant time by applying patches for the most important servers.

*"Manual processes equate to more time and more cost. Through McAfee's automated, priority-based vulnerability management solution, we have been able to eliminate our manual inefficiencies and drastically speed up our remediation efforts. This ability directly translates to reduced costs."*

—Tony Toth, Corporate Security Office, RPC

As the RPC executive team closely monitors the results created with its McAfee security solution, it also looks for ways to enhance its layered security architecture. RPC is currently evaluating McAfee Total Protection™ for Enterprise—Advanced, including network access control and host intrusion prevention. Integrating these components into the current RPC security architecture would make certain that all managed and unmanaged PCs are compliant and clean before accessing the network. All of this functionality would be managed through the existing ePO console, providing a single point for comprehensive security management and reporting.

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