

# Outbreak Alert For Super Group

Super Group

## industry:

Transport

## country:

South Africa

## business challenge:

To ensure its main communication channel, email, was not at risk of a security breach

## solution:

To protect the messaging environment, alerts are automated in the event of threats targeting the infrastructure

## services:

- Planning, deployment and integration services for Microsoft® Forefront™ Security for Exchange

## results:

- Ability to receive outbreak alerts from across the infrastructure
- Higher level of virus detection
- More potent anti-spam defence
- Ease of integration into the existing infrastructure

## Executive Summary

E-mail is a mission-critical technology for Super Group, an integrated supply chain business operating in South Africa and abroad. The company required an **e-mail security solution that was easy to manage and could provide them with a holistic view of outbreaks** occurring in their environment. Dimension Data subsequently installed a security solution for the company, **leveraging their skills in securing Microsoft Infrastructures**.

## Client Overview

Super Group Holdings (Pty) Limited was founded by its current Chief Executive Officer, Larry Lipschitz, in 1987 with the acquisition of the then ailing Super Rent Truck Hire, having 150 run-down vehicles, 80 staff members and a turnover of R1,8 million per annum.

Today Super Group Limited is a public company listed in the Transport sector of the JSE Securities Exchange South Africa. Its primary operating activities comprises supply chain management, fleet solutions, retail supply chain, African operations and dealerships. These businesses form two core operating divisions, supply chain and automotive, and are supported by the services division.

## Business Challenge

Super Group maintains its employee efficiency through e-mail and they rely on Microsoft® Exchange Server 2007 to manage the flow of e-mails of an estimated 4,000 mail boxes. The company has approximately 2,200 users on their network. For anti-virus protection, the company had been running Symantec on their desktops, servers and on the Exchange Server.

### André Scheepers, CIO of Super Group Holdings

says, "Although we never really experienced virus problems, we did not know how effective our system was in stopping threats. A single computer without the appropriate patching or anti-virus software can bring the entire network down and we wanted a system that could provide us with information on outbreaks in our environment. In other words, we wanted report-back in terms of the number of viruses found, cleaned, quarantined, etc."

Super Group recently signed an Enterprise Agreement (EA) for low-cost volume licences with Microsoft. Included in this agreement was Forefront Security for Exchange licences and according to Super Group it made sense from a cost perspective to deploy the solution.

In turn, Dimension Data's Microsoft Solutions business had previously assisted Super Group with their migration to Exchange Server 2007, as well as to conduct a Microsoft® Windows Server Active Directory rollout. The company has also partnered with Dimension Data for their Managed Services offerings.

“We did not have the in-house skills to deploy the solution, and **Dimension Data has an entire business unit focused on planning, building and managing** Microsoft Solutions.”

André Scheepers, CIO of Super Group Holdings

Scheepers adds, “We did not have the in-house skills to deploy Forefront Security for Exchange, and Dimension Data has an entire business unit focused on planning, building and managing Microsoft Solutions.”

**Anton Jooste, General Manager of Microsoft Solutions at Dimension Data Middle East & Africa** agrees,

“We are a Microsoft Gold Partner on five continents and we have advised thousands of South African organisations on how to integrate Microsoft’s security suite into their infrastructures.”

### Solution Delivered

Forefront Security for Exchange Server is one of a range of Microsoft Forefront products that helps protect aspects of a company’s Microsoft-based infrastructure. It includes multiple scan engines from industry-leading security firms integrated in a single solution to help businesses protect their Exchange messaging environments from viruses, worms and spam. Signature updates for all engines are rapid and automated, helping companies to protect against threats as they occur.

Dimension Data installed the solution on Super Group’s Exchange Server and the product was up and running within hours.

“We did not experience downtime in the process, which was great,” comments Scheepers.

“We did not have the in-house skills to deploy the solution, and Dimension Data has an entire business unit focused on planning, building and managing Microsoft Solutions.”

**André Scheepers, CIO of Super Group Holdings**

### Value Derived

Dimension Data has ensured that Super Group can leverage the features of Forefront Security for Exchange Server to their advantage. For example, management of Super Group’s e-mail system is simplified, easing the IT department’s workload. The solution includes automated signature and engine updates and centralised control and management.

“The solution can be centrally configured, deployed and updated in multi-server environments using the Microsoft® Forefront Server Security Management Console,” says Jooste.

The Forefront Server Security Management Console is also empowering Super Group with the capability to generate reports and receive outbreak alerts from across the infrastructure. With simplified reporting capabilities, Super Group can protect their information resources and secure access to applications and servers.

Scheepers says that since Dimension Data installed the solution, Super Group has experienced a significant reduction in spam.

“Dimension Data’s expertise in maximising Microsoft Infrastructure is really noteworthy. They have ensured that the Microsoft product integrates with our existing investments and that we utilise all the capabilities of the solution to ensure that we gain real business benefits,” concludes Scheepers.

