Technology is transforming how education is organized, delivered, and experienced for students and teachers alike. Technology-rich classrooms are spurring engagement, leveling the playing field, facilitating collaboration and feedback, and enabling connection to real-world experts. The result is a learning environment that empowers students and educators with the tools they need to succeed. No longer a nice-to-have, technological competency is now a requirement in education.

Yet, technology also brings a unique—and growing—set of security challenges to education. Rising cyber threats imperil IT operations, student and faculty information, and sensitive research. In fact, education is now ranked third after healthcare and retail in the list of the top 10 sectors breached by number of incidents[1]. In addition to financial fallout in the form of fines, theft, and the cost of damage control, schools suffer loss of trust and reputation damage, making it difficult to attract stellar faculty and staff.

Schools need a comprehensive approach to security needs. Symantec solutions enable education IT to provide a secure e-Learning environment for physical, virtual, and cloud platforms; safely manage confidential data and other digital content; protect against endpoint, mail and Web threats; and automate the deployment, security, and management of mobile devices—all through a single, central management platform.

THREAT PROTECTION

Sophisticated cyber criminals are constantly evolving new ways to infect networks, software, and devices. Some focus on collecting high-value data for as long as possible without detection. Others seek short-term, rapid financial gain—through credit card theft, for example. Still others use botnets or spam to very publicly interfere with daily business operations, defame institutions, or make political statements. Attack campaigns can occur over a period of months—or years. As the security landscape evolves, threat intelligence is vital for institutions that wish to avoid these outcomes.

Symantec helps educational institutions uncover and respond to cyber threats across endpoints, email, and the network with the world's largest civilian threat intelligence network. Comprised of more than 57.6 million attack sensors, the Symantec™ Global Intelligence Network monitors threat activity in over 157 countries and territories and records thousands of events per second. This powerful resource correlates real-time security data across multiple control points to detect malware and prioritize threats so you can respond to cyber security threats with accuracy and precision.

CYBER SECURITY SERVICES

Highly targeted cyber attacks are the new normal. Determined cyber criminals have the resources, flexibility, patience, and cunning to execute their plans for as long as it takes to get what they're after. Educational institutions must develop a comprehensive security strategy to address this threat, while also encouraging and enabling an open and collaborative environment. Yet, many schools lack adequate security staffing and skills to detect, assess, and respond to the problem.

Symantec's team of security professionals, research analysts, and incident responders is available to partner with you to secure your institution. Our cyber security services include advanced threat intelligence; active threat monitoring; fast and effective incident response; and an immersive, simulated training environment. This gives your team the know-how to quickly detect and respond to incidents, reduce operational costs, and proactively address known and emerging threats.

INFORMATION PROTECTION

In today's digital society, data is everywhere—in the cloud, on the network, and in transit. Faculty, administrators, and students are accessing the network via a variety of devices, all of which sport a multitude of operating systems, platforms, and apps. In this complex environment, traditional on-premise boundaries are meaningless. Tasked with protecting data, yet also ensuring ease of access and positive user experiences, IT is struggling to balance innovation and risk.

Symantec's comprehensive information protection solutions and services give your school's IT organization deep visibility of and control over how users access data. Discover where data is stored across your cloud, mobile, and on-premise environments; monitor how it's being used on and off your educational network; and protect it from leakage or theft.

MOBILITY

Schools of all kinds are embracing mobile technologies to cut costs, compete with other schools, empower teachers, and enhance student achievement, resulting in an influx of education data in the mobile environment. Small and portable, these devices can easily fall into the wrong hands. Public and personal data and applications are commonly intermingled. And with limited processing power, mobile devices are particularly reliant on network access and cloud services. As a result, they are highly susceptible to network-based attacks and data loss events.

In response, Symantec created Enterprise Mobility: Suite, a broad set of technologies in a single solution to securely enable the mobile campus. With trusted protection at the device, app, and data layers, the suite ensures that corporate data is isolated and protected from data leakage, malware, and unauthorized access. Education IT can embrace BYOD and/or CYOD policies while applying a consistent level of security. Leading edge app-wrapping technology allows education apps to sit side-by-side with personal apps without intermingling, giving students and faculty the ability to enjoy a native user experience on their device of choice and IT control over institutional apps and data.

CONCLUSION

Education is undergoing a radical transformation. The arrival of technology in the classroom offers profound benefits to students, teachers, and administrators. However, these changes come with serious challenges. In response, schools need a comprehensive security approach. Symantec solutions enable education IT to protect physical, virtual, and cloud platforms; safely manage confidential data and other digital content; block endpoint, mail, and Web threats; and automate the deployment, security, and management of all devices—so schools can focus on what they do best: preparing students for lives of success.

MORE INFORMATION

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go.symantec.com/education
To speak with a Product Specialist in the U.S.
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About Symantec
Symantec Corporation (NASDAQ: SYMC) is an information protection expert that helps people, businesses, and governments seeking the freedom to unlock the opportunities technology brings—anytime, anywhere. Founded in April 1982, Symantec, a Fortune 500 company operating one of the largest global data intelligence networks, has provided leading security, backup, and availability solutions for where vital information is stored, accessed, and shared. The company's more than 20,000 employees reside in more than 50 countries. Ninety-nine percent of Fortune 500 companies are Symantec customers. In fiscal 2014, it recorded revenue of $6.7 billion. To learn more go to *www.symantec.com* or connect with Symantec at: *go.symantec.com/socialmedia.*

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