



Automobile Retailing and Leasing

Nefkens Chooses MDAemon As Reliable, Secure and User-Friendly Email Platform

Problem free email traffic provides many benefits for the Nefkens Group automotive concern. Competition is intense in the automotive industry, so the ability to act quickly and efficiently is crucial. Email communication is fast and efficient, but there is more to it than meets the eye. Companies using email also need to maintain an optimum email environment to guard against risks such as viruses, system overload and unauthorized use. The Nefkens Group is connected to a large WAN (Wide Area Network) that runs all the company's business-critical applications. Downtime is very expensive, so Nefkens decided to switch to a web-based environment and an easy-to-manage email server. The choice: MDAemon Professional.

The head office—and digital heart—of the Nefkens Group is in Utrecht. Erik Van Ulzen, Network Administrator at the Nefkens Group. "In Utrecht we look after the ICT needs of our own staff and the dealers throughout the country," he says. "Our holding company is connected to a large WAN, where staff, dealers and suppliers can find all the applications they require. We are switching to a web-based environment for reasons of efficiency and effectiveness."

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Mr. Van Ulzen and his colleague were looking for a new email solution. "There were two main reasons for this," he says. "We had a large number of individual connections with email addresses and semi-functioning email packages for each different system. Maintenance was impossible. In addition, because of the lack of security and control facilities, our system administrator spent a lot of time dealing with viruses. We looked at the available packages and functionality. We noticed the top names are expensive and complex. They also include functionality you don't normally use on a WAN and the installation procedure was complicated. Eventually we selected MDAemon. I knew this package performs well for individual users, and a trial showed that it performs just as well for large companies. The good thing about MDAemon is that you can download and test it immediately. We like to see that kind of user-friendliness. In our industry you have to be able to act quickly."



Customer Profile

One of the leading automotive concerns in the Netherlands, the Nefkens Group has been active in the mobility sector since 1878. It operates a fleet of lease vehicles and is the official dealer for Peugeot and Opel. The extensive dealer network takes care of new and used car sales, maintenance and repair, as well as original parts.

Challenge

As Nefkens switched to a web-based environment to improve efficiency, they needed an easy-to-manage email server with an easy-to-use web mail client, that was also secure and reliable.

Solution

MDAemon Email Server

Clearly Structured Settings

Problem-Free and Virus-Free

The company was initially sceptical about the modestly priced MDAemon solution that it was not familiar with, but the scepticism has disappeared.

“Most of our ‘fears’ were unfounded,” says Mr. Van Ulzen. “We are extremely satisfied with MDAemon’s stability, virus protection and the way it integrated with our proxy server. We now process between five and six thousand emails every day, without any glitch or virus. Our 350 end users—the number is increasing fast—read their mail more often because the system is faster and more user-friendly. This puts them in a better position to anticipate and respond to what is happening at the holding company, dealerships and suppliers. That is exactly what we wanted to achieve with MDAemon Pro.”

Nefkens discovered one advantage after another while testing MDAemon Professional. “We wanted an email server that any system or network administrator could manage without first having to attend complex training,” says Mr. Van Ulzen. “Installation, implementation and configuration were realised quickly, in a matter of hours rather than days.”

Nefkens found that the setting options of MDAemon are very clearly structured, unlike some ‘venerable’ packages that ask difficult questions that soon put you on the wrong track. “It’s a myth that complex products are always good products,” explains Mr. Van Ulzen. “Complexity is not something you want for end-users, who have minimal IT skills but have to work with whatever package you choose. MDAemon’s email client had already passed that particular test with flying colours during the trial at Nefkens Gooi- en Eemland. It was surprising to see how quickly and easily our people could work with MDAemon.”

Apart from the first test and trial, Nefkens held intensive IT sessions during which they examined every ‘nut and bolt’ of the package. They even copied MDAemon to another server during a training session. “We wanted to make sure that we were making full use of the software and hadn’t overlooked anything,” Mr. Van Ulzen explained.

“A number of Dutch MDAemon customers we consulted were equally positive,” he said “The transparent license fees are an added advantage and we don’t need to pay extra for the clients. The conclusion is actually as beautiful and simple as the software. MDAemon an excellent package.”

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Network Administrator**



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