"We have much more visibility to our cybersecurity with SecureWorks. We get 24x7 expertise and vigilance we can’t do in-house. And clients can trust our confidentiality assurances more than ever."

Ed Macnamara, Chief Technology Officer, Arent Fox LLP

**PROTECTING CLIENT CONFIDENTIALITY WITH ADVANCED CYBER-SAFEGUARDS**

National law firm protects client confidentiality — and trust — using SecureWorks solutions

**Smart in your world®**

**Arent Fox**

**Industry:** Law  |  **Country:** United States  |  **Partners & Employees:** 800

**Website:** www.arenfox.com

**BUSINESS NEED**

With confidentiality a core client requirement, Arent Fox LLP cannot afford even the smallest data-privacy breaches in its defense-in-depth security strategy.

**SOLUTION**

The firm strengthened its existing safeguards with several SecureWorks solutions — all backed 24x7 by advanced security operations centers — improving its threat intelligence and defensive posture.

**BENEFITS**

› Gained extra protection against threat actors

› Validated client confidentiality assurances

› Improved visibility to overall security effectiveness

**PRODUCTS**  |  SecureWorks Managed Security Services  |  SecureWorks Security & Risk Consulting
LEGAL JURISPRUDENCE DEMANDS THAT LAWYERS PROTECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THEIR CLIENT DISCUSSIONS AND INFORMATION.

Courts and bar associations have long respected and protected this precept. But it means nothing to the world’s soaring numbers of threat actors — human hackers or automated bots — that relentlessly hammer the hardened data security defenses of law firms.

Arent Fox is one such law firm, well aware of such threats and resolutely determined to stop them. Its 400 attorneys and more than 400 support staff work out of offices in Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. Many take work home with them after hours. Many travel extensively. Working remotely in either situation, sometimes on their own devices, can further complicate the securing of data.

Clients are increasingly aware of threats to information security and, by extension, client confidentiality, according to Chief Technology Officer Ed Macnamara. "We’re constantly getting questions like, ‘Do you meet the bar for information security?’"

IMPLEMENTING THE ISO/IEC 27001 GLOBAL SECURITY STANDARD

That’s one more reason his team is in the process of implementing the security provisions defined in ISO/IEC 27001. This global standard offers a framework to evaluate and address cyber-risks, including those related to mobile devices, identity theft and other vulnerabilities. "We’ve built up formidable layers of network and data protections, taking a defense-in-depth approach," Macnamara says. "But as the threats evolve and become ever more sophisticated, we need to stay ahead of them."

To backstop the firm’s in-house, layered defenses, Macnamara contacted SecureWorks. "Clearly, today’s risks are more sophisticated, especially advanced persistent threats," he says. "These can lurk inside your infrastructure, and then do their damage over time. Obviously we could not have this happen, so we called in SecureWorks."

Interviews with key people in the law firm, including partners, are a core part of the initial security assessment that SecureWorks conducts for every new customer. "The SecureWorks discovery interviews helped its consultants to learn about and assess our security posture, as well as educate our senior leadership on today’s most serious cyberthreats," he says.

ADDING SECUREWORKS SOLUTIONS INCREMENTALLY

In steps, the law firm added a broad range of SecureWorks services to its existing and always up-to-date cyber-safeguards. First was Managed Security Services, comprising Advanced Malware Protection and Detection (AMPD) plus Advanced Endpoint Threat Detection (AETD).

To activate AMPD, SecureWorks installed three Managed iSensor Intrusion Prevention devices outside the law firm’s firewalls. Each of these turnkey devices run an internal firewall, an intrusion prevention system, a monitoring and diagnostics system, and a remote configuration and management system. Monitored 24x7 by SecureWorks security experts at its Counter Threat Operations Centers, the devices perform deep packet inspections of all inbound and outbound traffic in real time. They flag any malware immediately and alert Macnamara and his team at the same time.

"SecureWorks real-time monitoring plus our own anti-virus defenses give us two checks on malware, helping us respond faster," Macnamara says. "Of the two, we regard SecureWorks more highly because it’s more active monitoring. Its experts are actually looking at traffic, while the anti-virus software only offers its best guess."

FASTER RESPONSES TO CYBERTHREATS

Should malware get past the law firm’s IPS and firewall layers, SecureWorks AETD installs sensors on all endpoints, which help Macnamara’s team identify, isolate and respond to a threat much faster. "If a PC gets infected, we can clean it quickly instead of having to reimage it," he says.

In addition to SecureWorks Managed Security Services, the law firm has since engaged SecureWorks Security & Risk Consulting services. These include a security gap analysis, quarterly penetration tests and managed phishing. "The gap analysis validated that we’re doing all we can to secure our firm against cyberthreats," says Macnamara. "However, it did reveal that we need written policies for all we do, which will help us with our ISO/IEC 27001 compliance."

The penetration testing continues to validate the law firm’s defenses, and the managed phishing exercises help educate employees and partners alike, especially those who open fake emails. Macnamara works with SecureWorks to design phish emails that appear plausible, given current events.

In all, Macnamara credits SecureWorks with not only improving his firm’s security defense posture but also its standing with clients and prospects. "We have much more visibility to our cybersecurity with SecureWorks," he says. "We get 24x7 expertise and vigilance we can’t do in-house. And clients can trust our confidentiality assurances more than ever."

View all SecureWorks case studies at SecureWorks.com/Resources

SecureWorks is a global provider of intelligence-driven information security solutions exclusively focused on protecting its clients from cyber attacks. SecureWorks’ solutions enable organizations to fortify their cyber defenses to prevent security breaches, detect malicious activity in real time, prioritize and respond rapidly to security breaches and predict emerging threats.