Woolpert

Woolpert wanted to enable wireless access for its traveling users, while preventing connections to unprotected Wi-Fi networks that could compromise its corporate network. Woolpert chose ZENworks® Endpoint Security Management to help employees remain productive while on the road, without exposing their corporate network to potential security risks.

Overview
Woolpert, Inc., ranked by ENR as a top national design firm, provides professional engineering, architecture, planning, enterprise information management, water management, surveying, and photogrammetry and remote sensing services to clients in the public and private sectors. With more than 700 professionals in 23 offices located throughout the U.S., Woolpert’s collaborative and multidisciplinary approach is driven by great people, great clients and great projects.

Challenge
A diverse business portfolio creates a variety of IT challenges for Woolpert. Nearly 20 percent of its employees travel frequently and need to access multiple applications, including management information systems, client databases, time reports and more. With the proliferation of unprotected Wi-Fi networks, and the fact that most laptops now ship with wireless cards, the company was concerned that its corporate network could be exposed to security threats from viruses and hackers.

Disabling wireless access for traveling employees was not an option, so the company needed a solution to safeguard its corporate network, while allowing employees to remain connected and productive on the road.

Solution
Woolpert evaluated a few endpoint security management solutions, but found it difficult to find one that could manage a wide variety of wireless and USB cards. As a new customer to Novell, the company selected Novell® ZENworks Endpoint Security Management for its Microsoft® Windows® XP laptops.

“We couldn’t find a solution that was reliable or robust enough until we encountered Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management,” said Laura Davis, Technology Lead at Woolpert, Inc. “Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management allows us to manage a variety of wireless cards and USB drives, and includes a host of other useful features.”

Using Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management, Woolpert allows secure wireless access for its users by preventing simultaneous access to both public networks and its corporate network. The solution disables a wireless NIC card when a wired NIC is active. Traveling users now have the convenience of wireless access, without the associated security risks.

Woolpert at a glance:
Top national design and engineering firm

- Industry: Engineering
- Location: United States
- Products and Services: Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management
- Results:
  - Increased security of corporate network
  - Eliminated the risk of network vulnerabilities associated with wireless network access
  - Achieved wireless security initiative without adding IT resources or workload

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Laura Davis
Technology Lead
Woolpert, Inc.
“We needed to protect our network against viruses, hackers and a host of threats to our business,” said Davis. “With Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management, we get the best of both worlds: traveling users have the freedom they need for remote access and we have peace of mind that our network isn’t at risk.”

Woolpert implemented Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management without the need for additional IT resources or consultants.

“Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management was extremely easy to install and the management is very straightforward,” said Davis. “We like the centralized management console that allows us to remotely push out configurations to our laptops.”

“We needed to strike a balance between security and functionality,” continued Davis.

“We have to take a certain amount of risk for people to do their jobs, but with Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management, we can secure their wireless access without impacting functionality.”

Results
With Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management, Woolpert has solved the problem of network vulnerabilities during wireless access. The solution greatly increases security without a great deal of administration, so much so that the company estimates that ZENworks Endpoint Security Management has paid for itself in less than a year.

“Novell ZENworks Endpoint Security Management is easy to use, easy to deploy, secure and reliable,” said Davis. “As a new customer to Novell, we’re thrilled with ZENworks. The results have been spot on. The solution does exactly what it is supposed to do, without causing additional work.”