

There's been a lot of convergence in email security and content management tools. Look for the granular differences, says [Nathan Ouellette](#).

Traditionally, our email security reviews were separated into two categories: email security and email content management. In previous reviews, email security products focused mostly on encryption and digital signatures, while content management, usually focused on protecting email content

from an outbound and inbound perspective through a series of AV, anti-spam and content filtering engines. These focused more on threat management and ensuring malware, phishing and data leakage issues were kept in check.

Readers who are looking to investigate possible email security solu-

tions will have to make decisions regarding their existing infrastructure to decide which features are most important.

Even though most of our products cover both security and content management domains, there are granular differences associated with almost all of them.

## Email Gateway 6.7



<b>Vendor</b>	McAfee
<b>Price</b>	\$3,780 for 250 users
<b>Contact</b>	<a href="http://www.mcafee.com">www.mcafee.com</a>

McAfee's Email Gateway (IronMail) is an email security and content management gateway device, which provides inbound and outbound protection against spam, viruses, data leakage and other messaging threats. The solution integrates with many existing SMTP architectures.

Installation of the appliance was easy and straightforward and we were up and running within just a few moments of powering on the device. At first glance, the user interface (UI) of the device seems a little bit counterintuitive. We weren't sure which items were going to present us with a configuration page or show us a graphical statistic. Additionally, we had a slight problem with navigation using Internet Explorer 8, which

was easily fixed by reverting to compatibility mode. The dashboard views seemed a bit overcrowded as well.

However, aside from a few minor UI issues, the rest of the solution is full of powerful features. The product combines lots of configuration options for anti-spam, anti-virus, policy, content analysis and encryption. Once a user is acclimated to the system, configuring the various protection options is fairly easy. The appliance itself is very administrative-friendly with lots of alerting, logging, auditing and reporting features. Encryption is handled at the gateway and message level using TLS, S/MIME or integrating with PGP. McAfee also has a particular on-box delivery system for message-based encryption. When a policy element makes a decision that a particular message needs to be encrypted, the solution can use Push (delivery) or Pull (notification) mechanisms for the

recipient to be able to retrieve and decrypt the message directly on the appliance itself.

Documentation and user support via the McAfee website is excellent. Support options are based on the tier of support and the overall cost of the purchase and include hardware support, various tiers of access to certified technicians and high-level dedicated consultants.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Features	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★
<b>OVERALL RATING</b>	<b>★★★★★</b>
<b>Strengths</b> Very granular administrative capabilities. Very strong product and price point for the model reviewed.	
<b>Weaknesses</b> UI and dashboard views seem a bit crowded.	
<b>Verdict</b> Overall, a very strong product offering and great value for the money.	



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[Nathan Ouellette](#)

