

Paris Smith & Randall LLP demonstrates commitment to information security

With the proliferation of high-speed CD drives and USB ports Wi-Fi and Bluetooth, there are many ways for a disgruntled employee to steal or replicate private company information. And with USB drives of 4GB costing less than £30, iPods that go up to 80GB and even larger external hard drives not much bigger than a pack of playing cards, it is very easy for a user to leave the office with the organisation's entire customer database or its future product development plans in their pocket. But they're not the only thing that companies should worry about. How many employees have copied confidential corporate information onto a USB memory stick so they can access it while travelling between client organisations? Mobile working at its best – until the device gets lost.

Many organisations now realise that they need to control any user device that connects to the network, as part of their wider endpoint security policy. Indeed some companies have gone as far as disabling all ports and devices that allow users to copy data from the network.

Leading law firm Paris Smith & Randall LLP has demonstrated the value that it places on information security and confidentiality of data by purchasing endpoint security software DeviceLock. This ensures that no information can be removed or copied from the corporate system without permission and gives the firm absolute confidence in its security.

DeviceLock controls access to all ports and devices, including USB ports, CD-ROMs, storage devices, MP3 players, FireWire, WiFi and Bluetooth, as well as protecting organisations from keylogging attacks. Unlike solutions that simply disable the port completely, DeviceLock offers a layer of management, so that the IT department can change settings as appropriate from a central location making the solution completely flexible. With DeviceLock, Paris Smith & Randall LLP can centrally and granularly define which types of data specified individuals or groups are allowed to download on to a Windows Mobile® or Palm® OS device. It covers a full range of mobile device threats including the possibility of uncontrollably losing valuable data when a user syncs their mobile device with their work PC.

"I wanted to adopt an endpoint security system after witnessing a virus being transferred to an employee's own PC via a USB stick. It is not practical to prohibit the use of USB sticks but we need to ensure they do not compromise our security," said Philip Rich, IT manager at Paris Smith & Randall LLP. "DeviceLock has enabled us to put in place policies and enforcement technologies to ensure that they do not pose a security threat to the company. DeviceLock is a cost effective and flexible solution. From the minute we tested it we knew it was the right system."

Paris Smith & Randall LLP is a well-respected law firm that prides itself on its innovative use of IT. The company is proactively ensuring it isn't vulnerable to security breaches by putting all the necessary systems and protection in place before a problem has ever occurred. Not only does DeviceLock protect Paris Smith & Randall's data, and that of its clients, it also helps to ensure that the firm complies with data protection legislation.

Paris Smith & Randall LLP has been providing a full range of legal services to both business clients and private clients across the Solent region for over 185 years. Its aim is to recognise and respond to clients' needs with prompt, clear and practical advice based on a thorough knowledge of their business and families and with a focused approach to discussion and documentation.