



Best-of Breed End-Point Security Supports Standards Driven Manufacturing Company

Emereo Solutions provide data loss prevention and end-point security to eradicate unwanted threats and risks

Brunner Mond The Name Behind the Brands

Brunner Mond is one of the world's leading manufacturers and suppliers of sodium carbonate (soda ash), sodium bicarbonate and associated alkaline products. The company supplies customers from manufacturing plants in Northwich UK, where it has its headquarters, the Netherlands and Kenya. Brunner Mond (South Africa) Pty Ltd also operates a transportation terminal at Durban. Brunner Mond is wholly owned by Tata Chemicals Limited, part of the Tata Group of India.

Soda ash is a vital constituent in a wide range of manufacturing processes including those for glass, detergents and industrial chemicals. Sodium bicarbonate is also used in a diverse range of products including pharmaceuticals, Bakery products and personal care products such as toothpaste and deodorants. Brunner Mond is also one of the world's leading producers of calcium chloride liquor.



Brunner Mond was originally formed in 1873 and since its re-creation in 1991 the company has supported an extensive programme of investment in its products, plant, people and customer service facilities.

A Standards Driven Company

All Brunner Mond's products are manufactured to the ISO 9001:2000 standard for environmental and safety compliance. These standards are at the heart of all of the Company's activities in the UK and throughout the Tata Group worldwide.

So not surprisingly other operational parts of the Company, such as IT, are always looking to ensure the services they provide internally are equally matched to best practice utilising best-of-breed solutions. Information assurance, data loss prevention and securing IT end-points have become critical to good business practice.

Martin Murgatroyd, the Company's Head of IT, has embraced this challenge. "As the Company is governed by particular standards



across its manufacturing processes so there is a real need to ensure the other parts of the business are correctly supported in a timely and efficient manner and in this respect IT strives to lead.'

'Manufacturing processes need to be both time and resource efficient and because IT systems run in parallel with many of these processes, providing applications and services throughout, IT needs to be extremely diligent towards threats and risks if it is to deliver a service equal to the demands of the manufacturing and supply chain processes at work for the commercial success of Brunner Mond.'

Murgatroyd and Brunner Mond have had to face a number of key challenges and Emereo Solutions has been there to assist with a number of initiatives facing IT. First there was a network management project to ensure the high availability of systems, devices, applications and services critical to the business. Next was understanding how the loss of critical management information and competitive knowledge could be eradicated through the deployment of an end-point security solution such as DriveLock.

Managing The Threat of Data Loss, Unauthorised Intrusion and Non-Availability

Availability of IT, as Brunner Mond was quick to realise, is not just about network failures, but its also critical when securing against unwanted data loss or intrusion at the end-point. Many of Brunner Mond's products are manufactured to their own composite specifications, consequently they have commercial value to others in the industry, coupled with other competitive information any threat or loss would force a forensics exercise that could remove all or part of IT from the business for significant time.

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As well as its ‘trade information’ Brunner Mond maintain sensitive payroll records for over 400 staff at its UK HQ.

The Company knows it cannot afford to lose any of this data on three counts; staff confidence, competitive edge in the market and the temporary loss of IT, critical to the business, while ‘forensic’ assessments are undertaken. To secure against these threats Emereo Solutions implemented DriveLock at Brunner Mond.

DriveLock , developed by CenterTools GmbH, is an end-point security solution which, today, does much more than its name suggests.

At Brunner Mond DriveLock has been configured so network profiles allow or deny access to drives according to active network connections and allow or forbid removable devices, controllers and ports. Also where safe removal of these devices is required, for remote working purposes, Brunner Mond has the option of encrypting devices such as USB memory sticks. Of importance to Brunner Mond was to be able to do all of this based upon an individual’s access rights and profiles therefore ensuring access was appropriate to the role of the individual in the organisation.

To do this DriveLock utilises directory services (or LDAP), in this instance Microsoft Active Directory (AD), so individual’s profiles can be used when setting rights for drives, removable devices and applications.

This was a particularly compelling argument for the solution as Murgatroyd explains. “With DriveLock we were provided with a level of control that could be implemented without purchasing additional hardware or adding a large administrative overhead.”

Granular Control, Rapid Implementation

DriveLock’s configuration ensures only allowed devices are attached to PCs. Consequently this prevents the unauthorised copying of data that could lead to the disclosure of confidential data and prevents the introduction of malicious software from removable devices. DriveLock’s integrated Device Scanner makes it easy to identify all devices already in use and to maintain a security policy for controlled use.

To deploy DriveLock only took days from the device usage report to user training. DriveLock requires no servers to deploy and enforce its policies as it utilises Microsoft Management Console (MMC), so the first task is to configure the Windows Group Policy to mirror Brunner Mond’s IT security policy for device usage.

Once in place the DriveLock Agent was rolled out to all PCs using the deployment policy from AD. There was no disruption to Brunner Mond’s business activities and since the deployment the only administration has been fine-tuning device usage policies.

Smart Integration Further Secures IT Availability

In order to fully secure Brunner Mond against data loss and avoid the possibility of IT downtime Emereo Solutions also integrated DriveLock with NetCrunch, its network management solution. By capturing the SNMP events generated by DriveLock, Emereo utilised these to establish an ‘early-warning system’ within NetCrunch for those in Brunner Mond’s IT department.

NetCrunch monitors DriveLock as a critical application and any event is visually displayed to all in IT with escalated alerting for support to take corrective action. This integration further reduces the risk of loss and theft of critical data and uses IT forensic activities to support IT availability.

Bill of Materials

Brunner Mond has deployed 350 licenses of the DriveLock for end-point security as well as NetCrunch 5 Premium XE 1000 for use by IT analysts supporting the network.

Emereo Solutions has provided implementation and training services for both solutions.

About Emereo Solutions
 Emereo provides rapidly-deployed software solutions for infrastructure management covering network management and monitoring, network behaviour analysis, end-point security and IT service management. Our solutions help organisations secure greater resilience of their enterprise networks so IT can provide better services to the business and operations it supports. Best-of-Breed products adhere to ITIL and COBIT best practices and ensure compliance with initiatives such as Sarbanes Oxley, FSA, GSI, e-Health and e-Government.

Emereo Solutions (UK) Limited was founded in 2004. Its installed base serves a diverse range of customer types from Central and Local Government, the NHS, Education, Finance Services, Law firms and many more organisations where the goal is making IT effective and available. Emereo’s solutions have been deployed on over 15,000 servers across the UK and Ireland.

