

What is Symantec Brightmail™ Gateway?

The Symantec Brightmail Gateway is an email security gateway that provides effective and accurate antispam and antivirus, advanced content filtering, and data loss prevention for inbound and outbound email and instant messaging (IM). Unlike complex products with difficult management and products that force a choice between effectively catching spam and letting legitimate messages through, the Brightmail Gateway is simple to administer and catches more than 97% of spam with less than one in a million false positives. With the Brightmail Gateway, organizations can effectively respond to new messaging threats, minimizing network downtime, preserving employee productivity, and protecting company reputation. The product leverages continuous automatic antispam and antivirus updates from the Symantec Global Intelligence Network, on-box connection throttling using both global and self-learning local IP reputation, and comprehensive reporting. It is available in either a physical or virtual appliance form factor.

Why should a customer upgrade?

Symantec recommends that customers upgrade from Symantec™ Mail Security for SMTP to the Symantec Brightmail Gateway for these reasons:

Improved antispam protection—The Brightmail Gateway includes several antispam enhancements that improve effectiveness, accuracy, and performance. One major enhancement is the addition of local reputation analysis, based on customer-specific messaging traffic. The Brightmail Gateway maintains local sender reputation scores based on actual messaging traffic and can start throttling back or blocking messaging traffic from previously unknown spammers or distributed denial-of-service and “zombie” attacks. In addition, the Brightmail Gateway delivers a new global reputation architecture that more effectively denies connections from bad senders, increasing solution effectiveness and performance. The Brightmail Gateway includes enhanced LDAP integration to support invalid recipient rejection at the connection level. The Brightmail Gateway introduces multiple verdict analysis of messages, more effectively catching complex multilayered threats and allowing mail administrators to easily create powerful rules to determine appropriate message disposition.

Advanced data loss prevention—The Brightmail Gateway integrates advanced content filtering, data loss prevention technology, and exact data-matching technology from Symantec Vontu, the leader in Data Loss Prevention. This technology includes 78 prebuilt managed keyword dictionaries and 54 prebuilt premium templates to address internal and external compliance requirements such as HIPPA, GLBA, and SOX compliance. The Brightmail Gateway also offers powerful workflow and reporting around content violations, including the addition of incident folders and “hold for review” options for compliance.

Integrated IM protection—The Brightmail Gateway integrates protection against viruses and spam over IM (spim), administered through the Brightmail Gateway console. This protection includes access control for public IM networks, user registration to match IM accounts to enterprise users, and controls such as file transfer restrictions.

Enhanced reporting and administration—The Brightmail Gateway allows mail administrators to quickly and accurately identify what happened to any message through an improved message audit facility. It also offers more than 50 customizable reports summarizing key statistics on antivirus, antispam, content control, and reputation blocking. These reports, based on customer feedback, provide a powerful illustration of the appliance’s efficacy and value.

Improved software updating—The Brightmail Gateway introduces a new streamlined software-updating process. The software updater notifies mail administrators of new software versions through the administrator console and creates a one-click installation process that minimizes disruption to the messaging infrastructure. Email scanning continues during installation, preventing potential threats throughout the updating process.

Physical or virtual appliance—The Brightmail Gateway offers customers the choice between a standard physical appliance form factor (Brightmail/Mail Security 8300 Series) and the Virtual Edition, a virtual appliance architecture certified for production deployment on VMware® environments. With the virtual appliance, customers who are knowledgeable about virtualization technology can take advantage of the many benefits of virtualization while deploying the Brightmail Gateway on the hardware platform of their choice.

How can customers order an upgrade?

Mail Security for SMTP customers with current subscriptions can transfer their license to the Brightmail Gateway at no cost and with no special cross-grade licenses. They can either choose to deploy the virtual appliance on a supported VMware platform, or they can purchase a physical appliance. Customers need to complete a licensing transaction for the Brightmail Gateway at their next software license renewal date or within one year, whichever is earlier.

The Brightmail Gateway is licensed on a per-user/per-year subscription model. The same user license is valid for both the Virtual Edition and the traditional appliance software. Customers interested in a physical appliance also need to purchase a separate hardware license.

The Brightmail Gateway is also a part of the Symantec Multi-tier Protection and Symantec Information Foundation bundles.

Frequently asked questions

1. What if I'm not interested in deploying physical appliances?

Customers who prefer the flexibility of software can choose the Brightmail Gateway Virtual Edition. This virtual appliance has all the same benefits as the physical appliance, and it has been certified for deployment on VMware ESX Server. With the Virtual Edition, customers get to choose their preferred hardware vendor.

2. Can I try the Brightmail Gateway before making a purchase?

Yes. Existing customers of Mail Security for SMTP or Symantec Brightmail™ Message Filter (formerly Symantec Brightmail™ Antispam) can install the Brightmail Gateway Virtual Edition on the free VMware Server to try it. New customers can download the Brightmail Gateway and receive a 30-day free trialware license. Customers interested in evaluating physical appliances can participate in the 30-day Brightmail Gateway Try & Buy program or request a demonstration unit. For more information, check out www.symantec.com/trysms.

3. Isn't the Brightmail Gateway more expensive than Mail Security for SMTP?

No. The software license for Mail Security for SMTP and the Brightmail Gateway are approximately the same price. For standard Brightmail Gateway hardware deployments, a customer must purchase appliance hardware from Symantec, but this is about the same cost as a typical server platform for Mail Security for SMTP. For the Virtual Edition, a customer needs to purchase a licensed copy of VMware ESX Server for deployment,

but this enables the customer to access all of the cost-saving benefits of virtualization, including dynamic resource allocation, simplified hardware management, low-cost N+1 redundancy, and reduced power consumption and footprint.

Product portfolio

The Brightmail Gateway can be deployed on a family of Brightmail/Mail Security 8300 Series hardware appliances that can scale across organizations from small businesses to large enterprises:

- 8320 is designed for small businesses.
- 8340 is designed for medium enterprises.
- 8360 and 8380 are designed for large enterprises.
- The Brightmail Gateway Virtual Edition offers the same software that runs on the physical appliances, but it is deployed on VMware environments.
- Appliances can serve as dedicated control centers, scanners, or combined appliances.

Additional resources

Partner resources:

<https://partnernet.symantec.com/Partnernet/Product/Product.jsp?solutionID=1&catID=62&productID=505>

- Product page: http://www.symantec.com/business/products/overview.jsp?pcid=2242&pvid=1721_1
- Trialware: www.symantec.com/trysms
- 2008 InfoWorld Technology of the Year (4th year in a row): http://www.infoworld.com/slideshow/2008/01/149-2008_technology-5.html
- State of Spam: www.symantec.com/spam

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