The Symantec Mobile Device Security (MDS) service extends Symantec’s industry-leading threat protection and policy controls to mobile device users wherever they are located. The MDS service is part of Symantec’s global cloud infrastructure that seamlessly protects employees accessing web or corporate content from any device or network, and provides a network-based approach to protect and control mobile devices on and off the corporate network.

Unlike device-level solutions that simply block entire applications on personal devices, the MDS service allows you to enable mobile devices by applying application and operational controls across both native mobile and mobile browser applications. With network-based granular application controls and web filtering, the MDS service allows you to deliver the access users want and assure the security businesses need. The result is a much more flexible, low-touch approach to securing mobile devices.

Mobility and BYOD trends, coupled with new operating systems for mobile tablets and phones, have created significant security risks for companies everywhere. Inadvertent data loss through uncontrolled mobile apps, such as Facebook and Twitter, pose a real and serious threat to both individual and corporate security. Because existing security solutions lack adequate control over operations within both native and mobile browser-accessed applications, users and critical data are almost totally unprotected on mobile devices.

The Symantec Mobile Device Security (MDS) service helps organizations protect their networks from data loss and malware attacks and enforce acceptable use policies using a network-based approach. The MDS service applies robust policy controls regardless of the device used or where it is located, either on or off the corporate network, and does so with the very low-touch of a cloud service.

The MDS service extends global threat protection, universal policy and unified reporting to mobile devices with capabilities such as:

- Accurate web filtering and malware protection
- Inline anti-virus scanning
- Granular application and operation controls
- Real-time unified reporting
- Enterprise-grade encrypted connection methods

Securing Mobile Devices

Many web threats are device-agnostic making them dangerous and extensible to all types of devices. To protect against web threats, the MDS service ensures that mobile device is routed through a secure, encrypted VPN tunnel to the MDS service. The service uses Symantec WebFilter technology, backed by the Symantec Global Intelligence Network, to scan all transmissions, including encrypted traffic. The Global Intelligence Network offers real-time rating of new content, identification of new applications and deployment of new defenses across the global infrastructure. This allows the Global Intelligence Network to protect Symantec customers from attacks before they launch with the industry’s only Negative Day Defense. By identifying and blocking malnets, the infrastructures used to launch new malware attacks, the Global Intelligence Network proactively stops attacks by blocking malware at the source.
Application and Operations Controls

Mobile devices access applications through mobile browsers and native mobile applications. Both require the web to communicate, but in different ways. To help organizations manage these different security requirements, the MDS service allows defined policies to be consistently enforced across web, mobile web and native mobile applications.

Many applications use both the mobile web browser and the native app environment. While this approach delivers the best user experience, applying universal policy controls presents a challenge. Most mobile security solutions simply allow or deny entire applications, which can frustrate end users who may use unsanctioned applications for legitimate business purposes. By contrast, the MDS service allows administrators to control all three applications – browser, mobile browser and native – with a consistent policy across any type of device or network, anywhere in the world.

Enterprise-Grade Security Network

The MDS service leverages the enterprise-grade network behind Symantec’s cloud infrastructure. This network is comprised of SSAE16/ISO27001 certified data centers located around the world. These data centers host Symantec data Points of Delivery (PODs), which are connected via multiple Tier 1 bandwidth providers. The MDS service is rated by CAIDA as a true Internet network and is fully meshed, which guarantees availability to enterprise users with a 99.999% SLA. This ensures guaranteed access and performance to mobile users, globally.

Unified Security Solution Framework

Symantec provides the industry’s only Unified Security solution that delivers the same policy and protection infrastructure across on-premise appliances, virtual appliances and cloud service to ensure truly seamless, universal web security and control for all users, on any network or device.

The MDS service extends to mobile devices the same threat protection and policy flexibility used by Symantec ProxySG and SWG Virtual Appliances at corporate office locations, enabling consistent and unified security policies for the entire organization, including roaming mobile devices. It also provides contextual, granular controls through a robust framework that intelligently applies policies based on user, device, location and applications and content. In addition, granular Unified Reporting is available both via the Hosted Reporting Service or on-premises reporting to provide a single pane of glass view of all user traffic across the enterprise.

Global Support Resources

As part of the Symantec cloud infrastructure, the MDS service is fully supported through a global network of Support Centers staffed by experienced and certified engineers. Your security administrator can rest assured that engineers stand ready 24/7, by phone or online, to rapidly respond to any support issues. Your MDS subscription includes access to the Symantec Technical Support Portal where you can manage your support cases, download the latest software updates or review technical guides and documents. Symantec also offers Professional Services to help you design, plan and deploy the Mobile Device Security service in your unique environment.

More Information


About Symantec

Symantec Corporation (NASDAQ: SYMC), the world’s leading cyber security company, helps organizations, governments and people secure their most important data wherever it lives. Organizations across the world look to Symantec for strategic, integrated solutions to defend against sophisticated attacks across endpoints, cloud and infrastructure. Likewise, a global community of more than 50 million people and families rely on Symantec’s Norton and LifeLock product suites to protect their digital lives at home and across their devices. Symantec operates one of the world’s largest civilian cyber intelligence networks, allowing it to see and protect against the most advanced threats. For additional information, please visit www.symantec.com, subscribe to our blogs, or connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.