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ESET NOD32, a Roaring Success at Marwell



Helping to save species from extinction through captive breeding programs or re-homing a stowaway Black Widow spider are part of everyday life at Marwell. But when variants of computer viruses started mutating quicker than a chameleon changes its colours, the conservation charity turned to ESET for protection.

Marwell Preservation Trust is a registered charity dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and natural habitats both locally and internationally. At the centre of its charitable endeavours is Marwell Zoological Park, a 100 acre zoological park in Southern England that attracts over half a million visitors each year.

Computer usage within the organisation is split roughly in half between animal keepers and administration staff such as the zoo's popular animal adoption scheme. Whilst bugs are treasured in the zoo, there is no room for them on Marwell's computers. Just over a year ago David Whitehead, IT Manager of Marwell, decided that their current antivirus software, Norton, was no longer suitable for the organisation's needs and set about reviewing the latest products on the market.

As a charity, Marwell is very conscious about making the most of its resources. Typically when one person receives a new machine, the old one is recycled to another employee. It is not unusual for some members of staff to be running computers up to 6 or 7 years old, a policy that does not always sit well with desktop security products. In recent years, many anti-virus programmes have become bloated as additional function is added on, rather than integrated into the core product. The end result is software that uses vast amounts of system memory, something an older machine rarely has available▶



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Overview ▶ Marwell Preservation Trust

Pains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous Antivirus protection was heavy on resources
Solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESET NOD32 Antivirus
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small system footprint to help keep machines fast and more productive • Better protection against malware • Network Administrator helps provide effective network administration and reporting
Quick Facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry : Registered Charity • Customer Profile : Registered Charity dedicated to conservation of wildlife and natural habitats locally and Internationally. Also 100 acres of zoological park that attracts over 1 million visitors each year making their IT systems critical to the smooth running of all their facilities.



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"We were already very aware of the significant amount of memory some antivirus products hog and a low footprint on system resources was top of our list of criteria, alongside high detection levels and low false positives," says David Whitehead. "We chose ESET NOD32 because it met these requirements effortlessly and they were prepared to recognise our charity status and provide us with a discount."

Built on ESET's award-winning ThreatSense engine, ESET NOD32 Antivirus delivers the industry's most advanced heuristic technology that proactively detects and eliminates all type of malware. A fully scalable solution suitable for just a few users or hundreds of thousands, the Business Edition of ESET NOD32 Antivirus requires less memory and CPU power than comparable products, allowing business applications to run effectively without compromising security.

Marwell also has a number of users that access the organisation's network via a VPN when away from the Hampshire base. ESET RemoteAdministrator provides Marwell with a central management console from which it can quickly respond to threats, update signature databases, run reports, and install and manage ESET solutions.

"ESET's Remote Administrator makes it easy to provide support to off-site workers," continues David Whitehead. "You always lose a degree of control when users are based outside of the network and rogue laptops became synonymous with accidental infections many years ago. But we're determined not to be made a monkey of by getting hit by a virus, as soon as users log on to the VPN, NOD32 automatically updates to ensure the very latest protection.

"I also like the detailed information it provides about the computer's configuration, and the way we can instantly adjust it if required. In addition, RemoteAdministrator enables us to identify quickly any machines on the network that are unprotected, allowing us to ensure that no gaps exist in our anti-virus security."

This year, Marwell is upgrading its servers, so when it came to renewing its ESET NOD32 licence, the charity had no hesitation in signing with ESET again and included licences for the new email and NAS servers too. Both of which can also be easily managed through ESET Remote Administrator.

"Being such a small programme, NOD32 was easy to deploy and we've not suffered a single infection since we started using it," concludes David Whitehead. "The best thing about ESET is that it does exactly what it should do, unobtrusively and without any perceivable impact on the machines it runs on. One might describe it as a roaring success."

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IT Manager of
Marwell Preservation Trust



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