

The Organization

Central Louisiana Imaging Center (CLIC)
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The Challenge

Speed patient diagnosis with a secure network to allow physicians to review medical images from anywhere.

The SonicWALL Solution

A centrally-managed network powered by a high-speed network security appliances, all protected by Gateway Anti-Virus, Anti-Spyware and Intrusion Prevention Service

The Results

- Secure connections over VPN allow image sharing for efficient patient diagnosis, day or night.
- Ease of management with centralized network.
- Secure VPN and appliances saves on capital expenses and ongoing maintenance costs.

Central Louisiana Imaging Improves Patient Care with SonicWALL and Kinetix

Speeding Patient Treatment with Medical Imaging

Formed in 1998, the Central Louisiana Imaging Center (CLIC) is committed to providing quick results and the ultimate in patient-centered convenience. Their philosophy is simple: the faster the physician makes a diagnosis, the faster the patients begin to heal. As the only medical center of its kind in the region, for CLIC it is all about speeding the healing process.

CLIC's doctors had to drive up to 30 miles, day or night, to review medical images and perform diagnosis since the imaging devices are located at regional hospitals and clinics. In order to meet the growing needs of the healthcare community and to continue to provide outstanding, innovative services, secure access to medical images and patient information from a central database was vital for the organization.

To create a solution that would improve customer care with faster diagnosis and ease the burden on physicians, especially in emergency situations, CLIC turned to Kinetix Technologies, a managed technology solution provider. The mission for Kinetix was to create a system with centralized, secure access to medical images. The Kinetix team recommended a secure network powered by SonicWALL®.

Centralized Network Secured by SonicWALL

"Security, 24x7 access and high availability were CLIC's primary requirements when they first came to us about this project," notes Glen Ducote, general manager of Kinetix Technologies. "Given the security challenges and the expense of traditional leased lines for network access, SonicWALL® offered the best technology for their needs. SonicWALL also offers HIPAA compliant security and cost savings with its integrated approach."

CLIC chose to implement a secure regional radiological imaging network, including a VPN solution for communications with regional hospitals and remote access for doctors, all protected by SonicWALL's award-winning network security solutions. The network allows the regional hospitals to connect to CLIC through a secure VPN. The network is protected by SonicWALL TZ 170 firewalls at each hospital and a SonicWALL PRO 4100 at CLIC's main office, ensuring secure medical image transmission between locations. The SonicWALL PRO 4100 guards the main database and all of CLIC's business systems, including a specialized GE Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS).

To ensure all network access is secure, CLIC also added SonicWALL TZ 170 network security appliances at the physicians' home offices. The entire system is protected by SonicWALL's Unified Threat Management, including Gateway Anti-Virus, Anti-Spyware, Intrusion Prevention Service, and Content Filtering Service, to stop viruses, hackers and other threats.

Central Louisiana Imaging Center Case Study

"The network is operational around the clock, so the physicians can work from home to help speed diagnosis in after-hours emergency situations. SonicWALL provides tight security and efficient access."

*– Josh Swenson, project engineer
Kinetix Technologies*

Faster Patient Diagnosis with Secure Network and VPN Access for Physicians

Today, technicians at the hospitals and imaging facilities around Central Louisiana transmit medical images over a fixed wireless network provided by Kinetix, and secured by SonicWALL, to a database at CLIC's main office. As a result, CLIC physicians can perform diagnosis from the main office, or remotely, improving their efficiency and reducing diagnosis time for patients.

"Now, CLIC's doctors can help patients day or night, without losing valuable time by driving to regional hospitals to perform the diagnosis. The SonicWALL network is operational around the clock. Physicians can also work from home to help with diagnosis in after-hours emergency situations," says Ducote.

The SonicWALL solution works so well that CLIC decided to add a secure wireless network at their offices too. SonicWALL SonicPoints now provide wireless access in the main office to doctors. With SonicWALL's secure guest services, the network also provides secure Internet access to vendors, separate from the CLIC network.

According to Josh Swenson, the network engineer with Kinetix Technologies who set up the complete system, "SonicWALL provides tight security and efficient access. The CLIC team is pleased with the solution from SonicWALL and Kinetix Technologies. The entire system has saved them money on both capital expenses and ongoing maintenance costs."

SonicWALL Benefits:

- SonicWALL utilizes a re-assembly free deep packet inspection engine to eliminate threats over unlimited file sizes and unrestricted concurrent connections, offering ultimate scalability.
- SonicWALL firewall/VPN appliances provide comprehensive security. The firewalls at each store and at headquarters ensure that vital information is secure from hackers and other threats, while the VPN secures all communications over the public Internet.
- SonicWALL secures the network against a comprehensive array of dynamic threats including viruses, spyware, worms, Trojans, phishing attacks and software vulnerabilities such as buffer overflows.



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