



KORIS365

CASE STUDY

Queen Mary University of London

100GB Network Secured, Segmented, Supported.

Queen Mary University of London is recognised as the most inclusive Russell Group University, offering 240 degree programmes. It is world leading in areas such as Medicine and Dentistry, English Language and Literature, Law and Engineering.



Queen Mary
University of London

The Situation

The Network and Security team at Queen Mary are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Queen Mary network, as well as defining the future technological strategy. The team act as a service provider delivering the enterprise network to the University, while also providing network connectivity to various schools and faculties.

Queen Mary had a legacy Firewall core of Cisco ASA's. Other departments had legacy firewalling based on IP Linux and IP tables. The installed technology had worked well for numerous years, but on reaching end of life had become difficult to manage and left the team with constraints around performance and segmentation. A separate Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) was also in place in the form of Forcepoint.

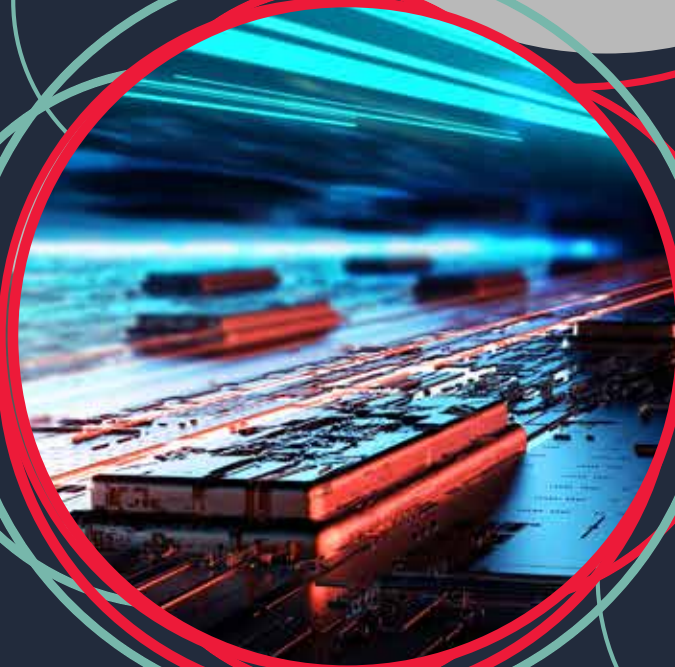
The team led by Mike Wearden (Head of Network & Unified Communications) took the opportunity to review the market and gather advice on leading edge technologies that were forward looking, future proof, and critically would meet the University's needs, within their budget requirements. The outcome strategy was to use Fortinet technology due to its better performance, feature set, value and manageability

The Requirement

As a research University, the needs were very specific. Queen Mary required a 100Gbps internet connectivity that could easily be segmented between the numerous research departments, allowing each of them the controls and independence, according to their research necessitates.

"The consistent communication from their team to ours, catering for varying levels and understanding of technology, provided an outstanding experience"

Mike Wearden,
Head of Network & Unified
Communications,
Queen Mary University of London



The Solution

After undertaking a full review of the market, Fortinet's Next Generation Firewalls were selected since they answered all of Queen Mary's immediate requirements:

Robust extremely stable technology

Ability to segment the network per research team

Easy to use management platform

Increased visibility

Consolidated feature sets into a single fabric

Reduced cost of ownership

Consolidation of core and perimeter firewalling

Bulk data transfer (research data transfer zone)

Integration with LAN routing using BGP for both IPV4 and IPV6

Furthermore, the breadth of the Fortinet portfolio also gave Queen Mary the flexibility and functionality that suited their future plans. For instance, the availability of Fortinet appliances across all leading cloud platforms is supporting the University's 'Journey to cloud' as it migrates Services from legacy on-premises to Microsoft Azure. Additionally, the consistent feature-set, across all Fortinet appliances, allows the University to replace all its legacy firewalls, may they be large or small. This is done with a standardised offering, all of which can be managed by one centralised platform.



"The Koris365 experts were tremendous, from start to finish - they listened and made sure they understood exactly what we wanted to achieve, they know the technology and architecture so well they were able to make suggestions and were very willing to test and lab things up before deployment"

Mike Wearden, Head of Network & Unified Communications,
Queen Mary University of London

Delivering the Solution

Koris365 had previously delivered a professional, well managed deployment of a Fortinet VPN. Thereupon Queen Mary were confident the technical experts at Koris365 had the knowledge, expertise and experience to carry out the implementation of the University's core/perimeter firewalling and IPS.

The Outcome

Queen Mary have an easy-to-manage, secured network that not only suits the needs of the university's Research Teams, but it also allows other departments within the IT to have better visibility. The new solution now allows them to log into Firewalls, see the logs and rules in an easily consumed format. This has greatly increased the transparency with other teams, increasing confidence.

Fortinet's extensive training programme has also enabled the Queen Mary team to upskill and do more. Since completing the deployment, the university has far greater visibility of the firewalls and the network, allowing for smoother trouble shooting. The team can resolve issues and implement swifter changes, meaning that the overhead in terms of staff resource is dramatically reduced.

Ongoing Support

"The experts at Koris365 are unbelievably knowledgeable and widely respected in the Fortinet community, they come with the added benefit of having great relationships with the Fortinet technical teams too. Following the completion of the installation, the team have been proactive, our account manager keeps in regular contact and the tech experts have been brilliant at keeping us apprised of feature changes that may be advantageous to us."



"The Koris365 Project Managers worked really well with our Project Managers, working around our needs, the team often carried out work overnight both off site and onsite. The consistent communication from their team to ours, catering for varying levels and understanding of technology, provided an outstanding experience. "

Mike Wearden, Head of Network
& Unified Communications,
Queen Mary University of London



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