



**Check Point**  
SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES LTD.

We Secure the Internet.



A Customer Success Story

## The Freedom Centre Gives Disabled Adults More Liberty with Safe@Office

### ABOUT THE FREEDOM CENTRE

Located in Sheerness, Kent, United Kingdom, The Freedom Centre is an independent charity and day center for physically disabled people. The center currently serves more than 50 member-clients with a wide range of physical disabilities—from stroke and car accident victims to people born with disabilities such as cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis. Some also have speech, sight and hearing restrictions. It offers classes at members' requests, such as foreign languages, mathematics, English and computer courses, all in a highly supportive, caring environment. As its name suggests, the Centre strives to give people the maximum possible freedom within the constraints of their disabilities.

### THE FREEDOM CENTRE CHALLENGE

For most of its twelve-year history, The Freedom Centre has offered word processing courses, but recently trustees wanted to offer Internet-related experiences for the members. The trustees felt that the Internet would be a valuable tool for people with disabilities, helping them extend their scope and increase interaction with the rest of the world. With a grant from the National Lottery, in September 2003, the center bought two high-capacity PCs, a printer and software to work on the Internet, and added classes using the Internet, e-mail and website design for both recreational and research purposes.

Along with the Internet's expanded independence came concerns about protecting a vulnerable group from offensive, dangerous and inappropriate inbound and outbound contacts. The Center Trustees also worried that if member-clients were found to be accessing inappropriate web content; there could be negative repercussions with donors, endangering continuing levels of support.

A computer expert volunteering at the Centre recommended that the Center Trustees contract with a network security firm to implement an affordable solution that would prevent members from accessing undesirable web sites, keep email viruses out, and provide a firewall against unwelcome intrusions. The Centre worked with Etanda, a local consultancy specializing in security to do just that.

### Client Name

The Freedom Centre

### Industry

Disabled-Adult  
Day Center

### Check Point Product

- Safe@Office™

### Customer Needs Met

- Seamless, transparent Internet security
- Affordable, easy to manage solution
- Safe, expanded Internet access for vulnerable clients

**“We didn't have the expertise to go out and do the research ourselves. We had to rely on advice, and we feel Etanda's advice has been very good indeed. We're extremely pleased with the results.”**

**Tony Andrews**

*The Freedom Centre's  
Chairman of Trustees*



Intelligent Security

*Check Point protects every part of your network—perimeter, internal, Web—to keep your information resources safe, accessible, and easy to manage.*

## THE CHECK POINT SOLUTION

Etanda specialists recommended a Check Point Safe@Office™ appliance connected to a broadband Pipex ADSL link at the center, under remote management through Check Point's Security Management Portal (SMP) on Etanda's central server. The combination provides both scalability (easily expandable through economical software upgrades) and ease of management—all at a very affordable price.

Etanda says the SMP process is well suited to small businesses, such as The Freedom Centre, because the firm can give remote hands-on support to clients and easily check that everything is running as it should. Through the Safe@Office and SMP combination, Etanda can offer a very effective service at a very affordable price. Tony Andrews, The Freedom Centre's Chairman of Trustees says, "We didn't have the expertise to go out and do the research ourselves. We had to rely on advice, and we feel Etanda's advice has been very good indeed. We're extremely pleased with the results." Etanda Director Eric Thornes states that the same Check Point technology and software installed at The Freedom Centre is also installed in several London banks, but "because there is an entry-level version of the software, Safe@Office, it's very affordable for a small client."

## THE BENEFITS OF CHECK POINT SECURITY

Protection of the centre's client-members through robust network security is the first and overriding goal of the Safe@Office and SMP implementations. Also important are affordability, ease of use and seamless network management without major IT investments.

### Prevention of Internet attacks

In a single month, the center's firewall blocked more than 148,500 web "attacks"—from all over the world including many of Kazaa music-swapping service enticements. Recent studies indicate that as many as 40 percent of Kazaa music-swapping files carry malicious content. The Safe@Office solution protects members from Internet dangers and the Centre from activities of questionable legality.

### Remote third-party security management

Through the Security Management Portal, Etanda is able to look after the centre's firewall, update software, change policies as needed and automatically run the filtering and anti-virus processes, using TrendMicro and Surf Control — OPSECTM partner products that integrate seamlessly with Check Point security solutions. As a result, The Freedom Centre staff doesn't need to have security expertise; they simply use the system. Having no resident staff security expertise, the Centre nevertheless has constant security oversight and rapid access to experts who can quickly help them through the Security Management Portal.

### Trustee doubts alleviated

Initially, some Trustees and members expressed concern about widespread proliferation of inappropriate Internet content and aggressive web practices. It was a barrier to implementing Internet access for a vulnerable population, because the centre wasn't sure how it could combat the threat. Adopting the Check Point small office solution helped reassure the Trustees, who could see that Safe@Office was diverting unwanted inbound Internet material and protecting members.

## THE FREEDOM CENTRE FUTURE

The Safe@Office implementation is still very new at The Freedom Centre, but as Internet access involves more members, new computers will be added. At that time, the center will have to seek more funding to provide them. However, because the Safe@Office appliance is easily upgradeable by a license key, if expansion is required, the Centre's investment is protected and will be able to meet and extend its service provision with confidence.

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