EDUCATION

BENEFITS:

- Utilize best-in-class applications to meet your complex security demands
- Increase operations productivity by consolidating all security within one platform
- Maximized security with 50% lower energy
- Reduce your carbon footprint in the data center

CHALLENGING TIMES

Doing more with less has been a standard way of life within higher education IT departments. Governmental pressure and legislation combined with tightening budgets have forced IT staff to look for creative and innovative ways to keep ahead of the curve. Unfortunately, demands are changing at an ever increasing pace, squeezing the capital budgets and IT resources to the limit.

With the advent of new mobility technologies such as 802.11n, 3G and the broadening reach of high-speed WAN & LAN connectivity, students expect instant access to self-service administration portals, online learning and collaboration tools from anywhere, anytime.

Education has effectively become a 7x24 business, with an increasing focus on delivering rich content on-line. Digital learning now encompasses eBook libraries, virtual classrooms for dispersed student populations and collaboration tools, together with newer Web 2.0 tools such as social networking sites that are now seen to promote teamwork and creativity.

In order to achieve this level of e-learning collaboration, higher education facilities now boast high-speed data centers in which to store, process and serve all the new content. The problem however, has been everything around the data center must be scaled at the same time, especially security services, in order to maintain compliance, protect the institution's brand reputation and protect the students' records.

So how do you scale the IT services to meet the increasing expectations, remain competitive, and be secure and work within the resource budgets?

DEMAND A DIFFERENT NETWORK ARCHITECTURE

Crossbeam has worked hand-in-hand with top universities and colleges from around the globe, helping them re-architect their security infrastructure to meet their increasing demands but lower the total cost of ownership. Crossbeam achieves this by consolidating security applications into a security platform that acts as a virtual infrastructure, effectively reducing the complexity of the network and making it vastly easier to manage, upgrade and change as needed.

Demand Productivity:
Crossbeam reduces the burden on IT administrators by consolidating 50:1 appliances, switches, routers and load balancers into a single platform. Our architecture saves time on software upgrades and maintenance, leaving more time for proactive IT administration.

Scalable E-Learning Solution:
Crossbeam delivers the only architecture to allow education facilities to linearly scale performance over time to 40Gbps as well as augment additional security services from best-in-class vendors, whenever needed. In effect, the architecture is change-ready and will adapt quickly to the changing needs of higher education.

Flexibility of Choice:
University and college campuses are the most complex and difficult systems to secure, dealing with students who are digital natives. The network security applications required to maintain a learning environment, such as Firewall, IPS and a Secure Web Gateway, can take years to perfect in order to realize their full potential. Crossbeam is the only vendor that works directly with all the leading security vendors to certify their applications on the Crossbeam's X-Series platform. This partnered approach provides our education customers with the ability to have the best possible protection, on the most scalable efficient platform, without being forced into a single-vendor approach.

Delivering a Greener Campus:
With 14% of students now choosing their university based on its green credentials, and the data center fast becoming a major source of carbon emissions, the IT staff have to create a delicate balance. Can you provide the best possible services and performance and still reduce power and cooling? With Crossbeam the answer is yes. The Crossbeam architecture uses highly efficient power supplies, low voltage processors and virtualization technology to consolidate and reduce power by 50%.