

About tilak

With the foundation of tilak (Tiroler Landeskrankenanstalten GmbH - Tyrolean Regional Health Authority) in 1990, the relevant sections of all regional hospitals were pooled and taken out of public administration and hived off in 1991, their personnel being reassigned to tilak. For training and further education of patient care, medical and other staff, tilak possesses its own educational center, AZW (Ausbildungszentrum West) for the healthcare professions, which has developed into the largest training establishment of its type in Austria. In addition, tilak participates in other services companies who operate in the healthcare, building management, medical equipment and medical information systems sectors.



Barracuda NG Firewall Cost Efficiency at a glance

- Extendable Barracuda NG systems offer companies sustainable investment protection.
- Unique management functions allow for quick and efficient roll-outs.
- Central management lets you save significant time and effort.
- Unique license and appliances/ server hardware combination lets you achieve a maximum of flexibility and cost optimization.

Availability, security & efficiency as the central challenge

tilak protects patient's data with Barracuda NG Firewall

The health system faces the permanent challenge of having to cope with a growing number of tasks and ever tighter budgets and, at the same time, optimizing the quality of patient care. This can only be achieved with standardization, during the course of which individual solutions are largely disposed of. The IT infrastructure in particular is an area in which innovative processes need to be found in order to both simplify and optimize health care practice.

The highest possible security and the best availability of both the network and patients' data are of central significance for the Tiroler Krankenanstalten (tilak, Tyrol hospitals organization). Highly sensitive data is stored and processed in many areas. In addition, the tilak is part of a wide network of institutions and partner companies (hospitals, training centres, private and social health insurance companies, university institutes, etc).

The tilak operates several networked locations and requires security technologies in order to distinguish these complex structures clearly and to prevent unauthorized access to the sensitive data. And all this was to be implemented on one unified infrastructure. A further challenge facing the IT infrastructure at the tilak was to mirror a complex organizational structure in the network architecture while at the same time keeping administrative overheads as low as possible. The Barracuda NG Firewalls have proven its value here.

Open structure vs. of island solutions

In the tilak network the Internet is not just a mere communications medium, but a strategic system. With an internal gigabit connection and a 100 Mbit connection to the Internet the tilak infrastructure is designed to cope with intensive use. At present, the system connects 6,500 staff work stations and also provides connectivity for diverse university institutes and external branches such as district hospitals.

With the Barracuda NG Firewall all IP transfer oriented services such as proxy, mail gateway, firewall and DNS have been standardized and designed to be redundant in order to guarantee the highest availability possible. Additionally, the divisions with increased security requirements were segmented and provided with special protection. The various units in the network were then segmented by IP address and grouped in terms of costs.

This took account of both the complex organizational structure and also created cost transparency for the billing of the more than 700 cost centres.

Autonomy with centralized administration

The special feature of this solution is that the same IT infrastructure can be used both for the tilak establishments as well as for the university institutes, although these are independent organizational and financial units. Administration on a global level with a centralised security policy is conducted by a core team of two administrators, while the individual institutes are currently managed autonomously with 50 administrators themselves. Alongside the largely self-managed 300 subnetworks, the introduction of the Barracuda NG Firewalls and the Barracuda NG Control Center resulted in an enormous flexibility for the entire infrastructure with low resource usage at the same time.

About Barracuda NG Firewall Network Security

As the most successful attacks mounted today are within the network, a single remote access link with an unsecured external PC or laptop is often sufficient to allow hackers and malicious codes to open a back door into the company. There are also additional hazards that arise as a result of intentional or unintentional misconduct by some employees. This threat cannot be mastered with perimeter protection alone, because attackers are already behind the network limits. Crucial business processes run smoothly thanks to multi-gigabit firewall performance and integrated bandwidth management. By combining a Stateful Inspection Firewall with Intrusion Prevention, Denial of Service Protection, intelligent application-selective bandwidth and multipath management plus VPN technology, guarantee constant availability and protection. This is exactly what Barracuda is delivering with NG. Protection is no longer limited only to the perimeter and branches, but extends to all sensitive network areas. Flexible deployment and support for virtualized environments is crucial for successful realization of clean bit structures in your LAN.

With just a few clicks work stations can now be activated, temporary access via VPN set up or other institutions such as health insurance companies linked into the network within minimum time. Despite the enormous number of mandates, work stations and users, the central administration team has a complete overview of all network processes as well as the status of the firewalls at all times thanks to the real-time and long-term statistics. Even the central security policy, software rollouts up to kernel updates no longer restrict the highly available operation of the network since this is all managed by the Barracuda NG Control Center and thus without any local intervention.

IT services for improved patient benefits

The high requirements of the tilak for an IT security and connectivity solution were fulfilled with the Barracuda NG Firewalls and the Control Center and the reorganization of the entire IT security system was deployed consistently within a very short period.

"We completely implemented the new concept in roughly the space of one year and now have an efficient IT infrastructure which is equipped for future usage. As such, we are now able to operate like an IT service provider, beyond the boundaries of our own institution," comments Dr. Georg Lechleitner, IT Manager at tilak. The synergy effects combined with the low total cost of ownership have resulted in savings which relieve the public budgets and not least improve the benefit to patients.

About Barracuda Networks Inc.

Barracuda Networks Inc. built its reputation as the worldwide leader in content security appliances by offering easy to use and affordable products that protect organizations from email, Web and IM threats. Barracuda Networks has leveraged its success in the security market to offer networking products that improve application delivery and network access as well as world-class solutions for message archiving, backup and data protection. Coca-Cola, FedEx, Harvard University, IBM, L'Oreal, and Europcar, are amongst the 100,000 organizations protecting their networks with Barracuda Networks' solutions. Barracuda Networks' success is due to its ability to deliver easy to use, comprehensive solutions that solve the most serious issues facing customer networks without unnecessary add-ons, maintenance, lengthy installations or per user license fees. Barracuda Networks is privately held with its headquarters in Campbell, Calif. Barracuda Networks has offices in 10 international locations and distributors in more than 80 countries worldwide. For more information, please visit www.barracudanetworks.com.