



# Scott Brownrigg

## AppGate's Feature-Rich Solution Is A Shrewd Investment for SME

Construction and Building Materials | Remote Access | AppGate

### SCOTT BROWNRIGG

*"The AppGate system has removed the constraints of the office walls. The company has empowered individuals so that staff can work where they want, how they want and when they want; and clients can come into the office and use webmail without affecting the security of our network. Mobile Smart Phone access has made a lot of people's lives easier – and the beauty of this system is that when you have finished work for the day you can switch off email on your phone without actually turning the phone itself off. You can't do that with a Blackberry!"*

Alastair Newman  
ICT Manager  
Scott Brownrigg



### Background

Scott Brownrigg is an international architectural practice with a heritage spanning almost 100 years. In recent years this design-led practice has consistently been rated in the top 20 of the UK's top 100 practices. IT is a key component in attaining competitive advantage in the design industry, and is therefore at the forefront of the company's core business model. Recently they decided to invest in a remote access solution to enhance communication and working practices – to enable staff to work from home, and provide online access for external partners. Initially they selected an IPSec VPN solution but discovered a number of limitations with the system. Scott Brownrigg needed a more flexible, more granular and more secure access control solution that would protect the business and support the organization into the future.

### Requirements

The core objective for Scott Brownrigg was to provide a secure remote access and communication infrastructure. However, the new solution needed to address the security and flexibility issues of the previous system, and provide an easy administration path so as not to increase the support burden on the in-house team.

#### Security of Online Data and Resources

**- Access Control:** A key requirement was to allow external partners controlled access to specific areas of the network. This degree of control was not possible with the previous VPN solution. The new solution needed to provide truly granular control enabling administrators to specify exactly which resources each user can access, and access to all other data and applications automatically blocked.

#### Staff able to work from any location:

As well as being able to work from home, staff wanted the flexibility to work securely from any location – on site, at client offices

or while traveling. Not only would this improve productivity but it would also improve communications across the company and with clients.

**Flexible and easy to manage:** As a growing business operating in a fast moving industry, Scott Brownrigg needed technology that could evolve with the business without significant IT support and overheads – scalable to support business growth, and flexible to support the frequent changes in project teams as different people work on client projects.

### Solution

Scott Brownrigg compared a number of systems, but Cryptzone's AppGate clearly met the business needs and delivered much more besides. "With AppGate it was clear we could pretty much do everything", said Alastair Newman, ICT Manager for Scott Brownrigg. "We did question if we needed such a technically extensive system, but now I believe that AppGate is one of the most important components of technology we've bought for the business."

Global Secure Systems, a certified AppGate partner and expert in IT security, installed the AppGate solution with one AppGate A2 Security Server installed behind the firewall, AppGate Distributed Device Firewalls installed on all corporate laptops, and two Policy Manager servers. With 3G cards for the laptops, flexible working has been transformed as staff can now work securely from any location – at client sites or while traveling on the train – and are able to access the data and applications they need, even the CAD system if required. AppGate's powerful access control functionality ensures the system administrators can control the level of access each user is permitted, preventing unauthorized access to resources on the network. Internet access is channelled through the AppGate server via IP Tunneling, and

*"AppGate is probably one of the most important components of technology we've bought for the business. I'm very impressed with the team. They pay attention and are always keen to help resolve any issues. I would definitely recommend it – it is a very good solution."*

Alastair Newman  
ICT Manager  
Scott Brownrigg

Policy Manager ensures that acceptable usage policies are enforced even when people are working away from the office, thus protecting the network from malware or Trojans.

A recent trial of mobile phone access has also proved extremely popular. Using Nokia Smart phones, the company directors are now able to access their email, calendar and contacts information wherever they are. "I was surprised at how easy it was to set up and it has significantly and positively impacted all those who are now using this technology," commented Newman. "We didn't have to invest in any extra infrastructure to do it. We just needed a few extra AppGate licenses and the system was fully operational." Through their Smart phones, directors can keep on top of email while out of the office, and it has made communications in the organization easier and more effective. "And the beauty of using the AppGate for smartphone connectivity is that when you have finished work for the day you can switch off email on your phone without actually turning the phone itself off. You can't do that with a Blackberry!"

## Future

The IT team has found the AppGate system easy to use and flexible, allowing new services to be phased in in-line with the needs of the business, budgetary constraints, and the demands on the IT department. The team is well positioned to manage the evolution of the system as the organization grows. Mobile usage will be extended in due course and they are also looking to leverage AppGate's SSL module to simplify network access from home PC's.



## Tips and Tricks

The ability to work flexibly is a key organizational requirement nowadays. This means that as many types of device as possible should be supported, and access granted in real time according to policy rather than according to some past design decisions.

Smart phones are a case in point. These devices are ideal for email and access to the company intranet, and AppGate supports a wide range of mobile platforms including MS PPC2003,

Windows Mobile5 & 6, Symbian 60 Series and UIQ. With AppGate, policy can be set to provide the user with one level of access when using a PC and a different level of access when using a Smart phone.

It is also possible to use client checking with these devices so that compliance with policies such as disk encryption can be validated before a mobile device is connected to any network resource.

Cryptzone solutions mitigate information security risks in key areas of Policy Compliance, Content Security, Secure Access and Endpoint Security.

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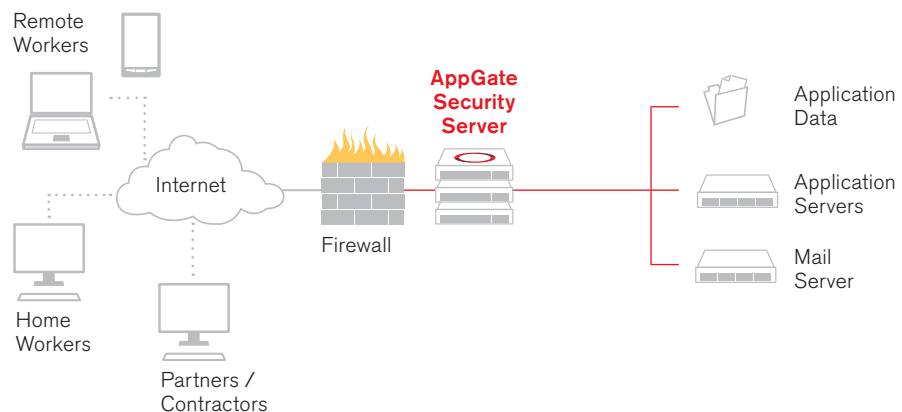
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