FRONTIER IP

NETOPA

HIGHLIGHTS

Website

www.frontierip.co.uk

Location

Edinburgh, London

Industry

Intellectual Property, Commercialisation Expertise

Products Used

– Office 365
– Synology

BACKGROUND

A UK based company that unites science and commerce by identifying strong intellectual property and accelerating its development through a range of commercialisation services. The Group looks to build and grow a portfolio of equity stakes and licence income by taking an active involvement in spin-out companies from Universities.

THE CHALLENGE

When making a clean break from its former parent company, who had been providing office space and IT systems, Frontier IP were in need of a full IT audit that would be tailored to their new, more concentrated needs, whilst extracting their existing data from the parent company for future use. This included being able to fully use financial software that was needed, without their overall IT budget being too expensive.

THE SOLUTION

In order to maximise Frontier IP's IT with a limited budget, a solution was found to use a hybrid of software and hardware that met the requirements while being cost effective in the transfer to their new office.

This involved use of some cloud-based software to save physical space and provide flexibility, such as Office 365. Aspects of this worked but it was found that a local storage was more reliable for their needs. For backups synology was used to create a Network Attached Storage (NAS), meaning that Frontier IP's data had a reliable back-up to a cloud and Netopa. Panda antivirus was installed to prevent issues to Frontier IP before they become disruptive and caused downtime.

With there being a limitation on the amount of hardware needed a Server was an unnecessary expense. The local network was used for the file storage between the PCs and laptops. This was secured by a firewall and the use of virtual private network (VPN) tunnels to provide encrypted connections between their offices.

THE RESULT

Frontier IP have grown considerably over the years and receives ongoing support from Netopa in their day to day IT needs across three UK offices, such as support with Sage, their cloud based financial control software. Netopa also now provides support to a number of Frontier IP's portfolio companies. As Frontier grows, installation and procurement of hard-ware for their staff is always a priority for our engineers; making sure that everything runs at its best.