

● OLIVER HUME

# Mimecast's Email Security Helps Oliver Hume Keep Vital Email Flowing and Secure

## Background

Oliver Hume relies on Mimecast's email security to protect its email systems against malware and spam, and give users across its three offices uninterrupted email access from desktop and mobile devices. The solution offered cost effective continuity during the disruption of a head office move, while reducing complexity and support overheads.

## Context

Oliver Hume is a multi-disciplinary property services group with offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Gold and Sunshine Coasts. The firm is Australia's leading residential project marketer and employs around 120 people.

Reliable email access is important to Oliver Hume's sales and customer care staff, whether they are in the office or on the road.

## At a Glance

### Company

- Oliver Hume
- Industry: Real Estate
- Number of email users: 120

### Objectives

- Keep email flowing during an office move
- Provide ongoing email continuity
- Deliver a seamless user experience
- Keep the support burden to a minimum

### Benefits

- Reliable email continuity
- Users keep working via a familiar interface
- Added security features, including user self-service
- Seamless large file send solution is simple, secure and compliant

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*Carlos Labura - IT Manager, Oliver Hume*

IT Manager, Carlos Labura is essentially a one-man IT department and explained: “Real estate is a highly competitive market, so we have to be on the ball when it comes to responding to new business leads and living up to the service promises we make to existing customers. Reliable email access is an important part of that.”

## **Situation**

The email system serving each of Oliver Hume’s offices was based on a head office Exchange Server supplemented by a range of point solutions – for instance, hosted email security provided by Trend Micro and large file sharing capabilities based on consumer grade services like Dropbox.

While the firm had wide ranging disaster recovery (DR) support in place, it did not have a real time email continuity solution – an issue that came to a head early in 2014, when Carlos was preparing to move Oliver Hume’s head office to new premises:

“Given that the head office infrastructure supplies email to our entire organisation, keeping email flowing during the move was a key consideration. Network services would be down overnight, but I had to plan for potential over-runs, which meant some kind of email continuity solution was pretty central to minimising business disruption.”

Initially, Carlos explored the option of temporarily expanding Oliver Hume’s DR solution to provide a temporary fix, but it quickly became apparent that this was a complex, time consuming and potentially costly option: “Replicating our Exchange environment at our DR location, then shipping in hard drives to restore data to our local servers once they were back online was not a realistic option.”

## **Solution**

Instead Carlos turned to Mimecast’s for a simpler, more cost effective solution in the cloud. He said: “When I looked at Mimecast I was immediately confident it was the right solution. It was much more manageable and less complex than our other options, and offered ongoing continuity at the same cost as a disaster recovery one off.”

Having selected Mimecast for email continuity, Carlos decided on Mimecast's email security solutions, which offered a range of features and benefits that Oliver Hume's existing point solutions could not match.

The Mimecast team guided Carlos through a quick and pain-free set-up process, which required no additional hardware on site. "Getting the solution set up was really straightforward," Carlos said. "I got excellent, responsive support and experienced no major roadblocks along the way."

## **Benefits**

First and foremost Mimecast's email security ensured that all Oliver Hume staff retained email access during the head office move, via the familiar Outlook interface.

Carlos said: "We did the move overnight on a Thursday, but networking issues meant we were not back up and running until about 1.30pm on the Friday. Mimecast Email Continuity ensured our users could access email as normal, whether they were using company-owned or personal laptops and smartphones."

Crucially, the continuity solution did not require any action from Carlos, leaving him free to resolve the wider networking issue:

"It just kicked in automatically as soon as the core servers went offline, then switched back automatically once we were back up."

Mimecast's email security has also strengthened the range of email security features available to Oliver Hume. Chief amongst them have been the user self-service features: "Users can now manage their own quarantined emails, which I am sure will eliminate helpdesk calls and reduce the amount of time I spend dealing with email admin."

Finally, Mimecast Large File Send has made it easier for users to share large files, and ensured Carlos has compliance under control. He said: "Now users can send large files direct from Outlook, while encryption and custom expiration options ensure our data is secure. On top of that, it's easy to manage and auditable for me."

Overall, Carlos has been delighted with Mimecast's email security: "I've been impressed with every aspect of Mimecast's email security. It has kept email flowing during outages without any problems, secured our email environment, and added features to help make our users more productive."