



# Character Options overcome Internet threats with Zen’s Managed Network Security solution

## About Character Options

Character Options designs, develops and internationally distributes toys and games as part of The Character Group Plc. They are possibly best known for their Robosapien and Doctor Who range of products.

The Group now has offices in London, Manchester, Hong Kong and China, and employs over 230 people.

## Challenge

Character Options was experiencing problems with Internet viruses and decided to look at outsourcing the management of their network security to a dedicated security specialist.

Character Options also had issues tracking Internet usage and wanted the ability to manage and monitor Internet access.

“The provided FortiGate device delivers improved Internet protection and is the ideal companion to the desktop security software that we currently use.”

Fortinet are the market leaders for appliance based Internet security. Their range of advanced security solutions provide effective protection from today’s blended attacks from network intrusions, viruses, worms, phishing, spyware and spam. A global 24/7 threat detection and update service ensures the FortiGate platform has up-to-the-minute protection from the latest security threats, safeguarding any business from damaging attacks.

“Before we adopted Zen’s managed security service our level of network protection was ineffective against blended Internet threats.

Zen’s managed service has enabled us to address and remedy these concerns and we now have complete confidence in the reliability and security of our network.”

Dave Hindle, IT Manager  
Character Group

## Solution

After determining Character Options requirements, our team of accredited network consultants designed a bespoke security solution using Fortinet’s range of Unified Threat Management (UTM) security devices.

### Project Overview

- **Business Requirement**

A specialist security provider to update and manage their network, and the ability to monitor Internet access.

- **Solution**

A bespoke security solution featuring a fully managed Fortinet Unified Threat Management device.

- **Business Value**

A seamless and resilient solution, providing protection against viruses, spyware, intrusion attempts and spam.

- **Industry Focus**

International designer and developer of toys and games.



## The Benefits

The network security solution we recommended added resilience to Character Options' existing desktop anti-virus protection and provided the additional benefit of Internet access control and Internet usage monitoring.

Our pre-sales technical consultants configured the security solution to integrate seamlessly into the Character Options IT network. All the Character Options IT department had to do was plug it in.

Day-to-day management and maintenance of the solution was provided by our team of accredited security experts. This saved Character Options from having to find the time and money to develop their own team of security experts to manage their new security platform.

The new network security solution complemented Character Options' existing desktop anti-virus solution and provided additional protection against viruses, spyware, intrusion attempts or spam.



The ability to track Internet usage and restrict access to prohibited sites improved productivity and freed up broadband bandwidth for the benefit of all users. Overall, our solution enabled Character Options to have complete confidence in the reliability and security of their network.

“ **The included Web content filtering service has also proved invaluable as we can now monitor unacceptable use of the Internet.** ”

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