

# Mimecast and Microsoft 365: **A Perfect Pair**



Why Mimecast is your essential companion to Microsoft

**Insight**<sup>®</sup> 

# The Challenge

## Maintaining Cyber Resilience in a Microsoft-Dependent World

Organisations continue to adopt Microsoft's cloud platform at a rapidly growing pace. Given the benefits of Microsoft365 - which combines Office365 with Windows 10 - the trend is hardly surprising. The platform makes it easy to improve business functions, the software stays updated, and the service improves economies of scale. Unfortunately, however, there's a catch.

## 300 Million Business Users

The more successful Microsoft 365 is, the more companies adopt it, which makes it an extremely attractive target for attackers. With almost 300 million users on the platform at the end of 2020, every user added to Microsoft365 increases the incentive for malicious actors to target Microsoft. Measuring this over the last year, Mimecast saw:

- The adoption of OneDrive double, resulting in 237X the number of attacks exploiting OneDrive
- Microsoft Office traffic increase by 2.5X, resulting in 7500X more attacks on Microsoft Office
- Over 222 unique Microsoft phishing URLs were created every day

### Mimecast helps you solve Microsoft 365's intractable problem:

- Protect your email with industry leading security
- Deploy a "second lock to pick" for threat actors
- Train your employees to strengthen your human firewall
- Protect your brand and domain beyond your perimeter
- Integrate rich threat intelligence into your security ecosystem
- Keep email flowing even when Microsoft is down
- Automate independent post compromise mitigation
- Make email compliance fast & easy
- Extend protection with robust web security and shared intelligence

**Microsoft 365 is a goldmine for threat actors and will only be more enticing as their user count grows to 300 million+.**



## 90% of Incidents Involve Human Error

Email continues to be the most universal communication tool and with the shift to remote working, users rely on it more than ever, reply faster, and open links and attachments quicker than before. Cyber criminals are clearly taking advantage of user behavior and emotions - in the first 100 days of the pandemic, Mimecast saw email attacks rise by over 30%.<sup>1</sup> End users are often undertrained on security and attacks use sophisticated techniques designed to dupe the users, which is why over 90% of security incidents involve human error.<sup>2</sup>

## 28% False Negative Rate

From email to instant messaging, from mobility to collaboration, Microsoft's sweet spot and focus is productivity, as it should be. While most successful cyberthreats leverage more than just email, email continues to be the source of 94% of cyberattacks. This means that it is critical that organisations have effective email security technology.

Over the last four years, Mimecast evaluated email that had passed through Microsoft Exchange Online Protection and Advanced Threat Protection and consistently found a 28% false negative rate.<sup>3</sup> Considering the volume of email, that's billions of malicious messages sitting in mailboxes.

Threat actors will target Microsoft security and take advantages of vulnerabilities to exploit the many organisations that are protected by Microsoft's native security. Meaning, if they can get through Microsoft security once, they can do the same to the other organisations.

*Considering the volume of email, that's billions of malicious messages sitting in mailboxes.*

To reap the benefits of Microsoft without increasing cyber risk, it's critical to follow the security best practice of layered protection, surrounding M365 with a comprehensive, cloud-based cyber resilience solution. Doing so not only increases protection at the email gateway, but it can also keep business flowing and data protected in case of a service disruption.

### The bottom line?

When it comes to protecting the most critical communications channel "good enough" security simply isn't.

Mimecast found that

# 28% of the emails

that were deemed safe by M365 E5 were either dangerous or unwanted.

**Email Security Risk Assessments**

2019 Aggregation | M365 E5



# The Solution

## Mimecast Pervasive Security and Cyber Resilience

As well as offering an independent and layered defense strategy, Mimecast is maniacally focused on innovating to solve the problems posed by today's threat landscape in the easiest, most economical fashion.

Enter Mimecast's Email Security 3.0 Strategy, which provides security across your email perimeter, inside your network and organisation and beyond your perimeter.

Although the traditional concept of a "perimeter" has evolved, the simple fact remains that securing your email is one of the most important steps organisations can take to reduce risk and keep disruption at bay.

Mimecast prevents business email compromise, including credential phishing, whaling, and ransomware, and data leaks from entering or leaving your organisation's perimeter.

Even with a robust email security perimeter in place, attackers can bypass defenses and operate inside an email network, using compromised accounts or social engineering to send bad things inside and out. Employees are also susceptible to opening attachments, clicking on links, and falling for scams. With Mimecast's Internal Email Protect, it's easy to prevent attacks from spreading internally or to a customer or partner.

Mimecast Awareness Training makes it easy and fun for employees to better understand how to respond to threats, creating a culture of security at your organisation.

**93%**  
**of Mimecast**  
**customers**

see significant security  
improvements versus  
Office365 alone.

Using Mimecast with Office365 significantly improves our defenses against spam and email-borne threats versus using Office365 alone.<sup>4</sup>



"We love all the security features, especially protection against impersonation. Our package also includes Internal Email Protect, which we believe is very important within our organisation as it protects our end users against potential internal threats."

*Infrastructure Operations Manager, IBL LTD*



While it's critical to protect your email both at and inside the perimeter, attackers can easily impersonate your brand without confronting your email perimeter. Mimecast's protection beyond the perimeter stops illegitimate use of your email domain and alerts and removes brand imitations and fake websites, ultimately, protecting your customers and reputation.

Coupled together, Mimecast security protects your investment in Microsoft by protecting your users, partners and customers and data.

## Resilience and Recovery

Mimecast's Resilience and Recovery services make downtime a thing of the past, while ensuring critical data is never lost. Whether unexpected or planned, downtime for email no longer has to mean downtime for your organisation.

And in the case of an employee mistake or worse, stolen data, Mimecast makes it easy to restore your mailbox data back to Microsoft.

## Compliance and Data Protection

Mimecast's independent, cloud archive allows you to tame complexity, minimise risk, reduce costs, and decrease the burden on over-taxed resources. Control over data retention and detailed logging helps you meet regulation requirements, like SEC 17a-4 and EU GDPR.

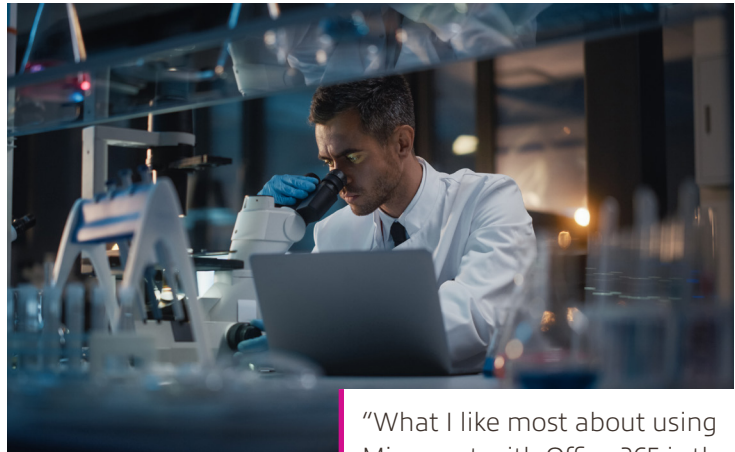
Whether an end user is performing a simple archive search, or your organisation is performing a complex e-Discovery cast, Mimecast's fast and reliable archive search reduces third-party costs and minimises the burden on all users.

## Web Threats and Shadow IT

To further extend protection, Mimecast offers anytime, anywhere protection across users online, with visibility into which website and cloud apps are being used. Fully integrated into the Mimecast platform, you get consistent protection across both email and web, the top two threat vectors, in a simple and cost-effective way.

## Privacy and Encryption

User and Administrator friendly, Mimecast's Secure Messaging and Privacy Pack ensures sensitive information is protected. With granular message control, you don't need to worry about data getting into the wrong hands.



"What I like most about using Mimecast with Office 365 is the protection against malicious email attacks and resilience for Office 365 outages."

*Application Manager,  
Medium Enterprise Chemicals Company*

1. 100 Days of Covid

2. Ponemon Institute/IBM Security 2018

3. According to 4 years of Mimecast Email Security Risk Assessments

4. TechValidate 2019





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For more information, and to discover how Insight and mimecast can support your applications, please contact your Insight account manager today.

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