

Distributing protection across the enterprise is important in today's threat environment, and UTMs may be mature enough to help, says **Peter Stephenson**.

Today's UTM does not much resemble those of the past. While the genre has reached maturity, there has been significant growth since the product type originated, both in the number of products and in their functionality. Typically, today's UTM can be expected to contain a firewall, anti-

malware and IDS/IPS. There is a lot of functionality beyond those main pieces, of course. Many, if not all, UTMs now include application protocol blocking. This functionality started to become important with the advent of such internet application protocols as peer-to-peer in its various forms and instant messaging.

Blocking application protocols at the gateway goes a long way toward reducing risks

Web content filtering is another capability finding its way into UTMs. This, along with anti-malware, probably covers the majority of threats against the enterprise entering through the perimeter.

## gateProtect GPZ 2500



**Vendor** gateProtect AG Germany

**Price** \$25,495

**Contact** [www.gateProtect.com](http://www.gateProtect.com)

Built for the large enterprise, the gateProtect GPZ 2500 is a monster UTM. This product features best-of-breed, gateway-based malware protection, including anti-virus from Kaspersky and anti-spam from Commtouch, as well as phishing protection. Aside from malware and spam protection, this offering also features a solid intrusion prevention system that works in tandem with a firewall, web content filtering and application protocol blocking.

Setting up and configuring this appliance is quite easy, but it is not intuitive at first. The appliance comes as a blank slate and needs to be configured from scratch. There are two ways to do this. The first is through a setup wizard, but

we found running the wizard only makes configuration more confusing. The second option is creating a blank desktop through the eGUI application and configuring all the zones and groups manually.

Last year when we reviewed this product, we said it was complicated and confusing to set up and manage and that the eGUI design was uncomfortable to use. We have to say that since the last review we have spent a little more time getting to know how the gateProtect eGUI works, and we now can say this interface is actually quite simple to use.

Documentation included full installation and administration manuals.

The company offers 30 days of support 24/7 via an online portal included in the price of the product. After the 30 days, customers can purchase additional support at various levels through a contract.

At a price just shy of \$25,500 – including UTM software and one-year premium support – this product carries a very hefty price tag for a product in this category. However, based on its extremely flexible and easy-to-manage eGUI, we find it to be a reasonable value for the money. This solution is intended for the very large and complicated infrastructures of large corporate environments, and the price definitely reflects that.

### SC MAGAZINE RATING

Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Performance	★★★★★
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★☆

### OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

**Strengths** Very flexible with drag-and-drop configuration options.  
**Weaknesses** eGUI interface is not intuitive straight off. Expensive.  
**Verdict** Very good feature set, but it comes at a price.



Very flexible with drag-and-drop configuration options.

**Peter Stephenson**



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