

DOCUMENT\* PRESENTED  
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management  
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performance  
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security  
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## Finjan Vital Security NG-5100

**F**injan specialises in web content security, and its extensive range of Vital Security appliances offers a choice selection of unique features that provide a highly proactive stance when faced with new threats. On review is the NG-5100 appliance, which is aimed at medium sized businesses and enterprises. It comes with a decent hardware specification comprising a 3.4GHz Pentium D processor, 2GB of memory and a quad of Gigabit Ethernet ports.

In their base configuration all Vital Security appliances have the Finjan WSS (Web Security Suite) preinstalled. This delivers three unique features with the patented behavioural blocking technology on the front line, designed to identify malicious code and block it. There are a number of other solutions that do this but the majority use a sandbox to achieve it. Finjan takes a different approach, as instead of allowing the suspect code to execute in a fenced off area, the appliance examines it, to determine what would happen if it was allowed to run - and if it doesn't like it then the code is blocked.

Next up is Finjan's Anti.dot, which provides essential protection from new exploits. All too often a Windows patch is not made available until some time after an exploit has been publicised, so as soon as a vulnerability is spotted, Finjan downloads a new rule set to the

appliance, to allow it to detect and block it during this vulnerable phase. Last but certainly not least is Finjan's spyware protection, which uses a combination of behavioural analysis and known spyware URL lists, to combat this rapidly growing threat. WSS can be teamed up with optional anti-virus measures and web content filtering. For the former, you can choose from Sophos, Kaspersky or McAfee whilst the latter is handled by the excellent SurfControl.

During testing we found the NG-5100 extremely easy to deploy and manage. Using the installation wizard from the management web interface, we had it running as an explicit proxy in a matter of minutes. A number of other scenarios are supported as it can also operate as a transparent proxy. In all-in-one mode, a single appliance handles all security functions, but if you want to spread the load then you can have multiple appliances providing load-balanced scanning services and reporting to another, that functions as a policy enforcement server.

Finjan's policies make the NG-5100 highly versatile as they use sets of rules containing selected conditions and actions which can be customised to suit virtually any type of environment. The position of each rule in the policy determines its priority, and a useful "X-Ray" option allows specific rules to be passively logged before going live. A

default security policy is automatically applied to all unknown users, but you can assign new policies to individual users or groups, and Finjan makes light work of importing them from an LDAP server.

The WSS features provide strength in depth as these are generally placed near the end of a security policy where they come into play after all other rules have been used. However, you can view the rule list in each policy and easily move any of them up or down as required. Whenever a user transgresses their assigned policy, they will be redirected to a warning web page from the appliance that advises of their misdemeanour and logs the incident.

The Vital Security NG-5100 is undoubtedly a powerful web security appliance and the use of policies makes it highly versatile. Along with extensive reporting facilities, it offers a good range of optional anti-virus and URL filtering tools, whilst Finjan's WSS provides critical proactive protection against the daily deluge of new security threats. **NC**

**Product:** Vital Security NG-5100

**Supplier:** Finjan UK

**Tel:** 01252 511118

**Web site:** [www.finjan.com](http://www.finjan.com)

**Price:** 1000 users; starts from £10,000 excluding VAT. With 1 year Kaspersky AV and SurfControl included; £20,000 excluding VAT.