



London Fire Brigade secures confidential information and protects itself from potential liability using Egress Switch

LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

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Vanessa Skinner
Safeguarding Lead
London Fire Brigade

As the second largest fire service in the UK, London Fire Brigade employs approximately 7,000 staff, of whom 5,800 are operational firefighters and officers, and serves all 32 London Boroughs and the City of London. Working to protect the capital’s eight million permanent residents and more than 15 million annual tourists from around the globe, London Fire Brigade attends a range of emergency incidents, including fires, traffic collisions and floods, as well as carrying out community safety initiatives. In order to conduct this life-saving work, London Fire Brigade needs to balance the requirement for users to be able to respond quickly to information with doing so in a secure way.

Therefore finding a solution that was user-intuitive was essential.

A crucial service

“Fire prevention work is most effective when carried out in partnership with other organisations to support those most at risk from fire. As such, London Fire Brigade works closely with all 32 London Boroughs and the City of London, the Met Police, and care agencies, as well as other external partners, to identify those in need of support via a referral process.”

Defined benefits

“During a recent review of London Fire Brigade’s safeguarding processes and systems, our ICT Security staff identified the organisational benefit, particularly in line with local authorities, offered by the secure electronic transmission of confidential information to third parties. As a result, we deployed Egress Switch to meet this need.”

An integrated solution

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For more information about Egress contact:

E: info@egress.com

W: www.egress.com

T: +44 (0) 844 800 0172

The Challenge

Vanessa Skinner, London Fire Brigade’s Safeguarding Lead, explains: “Fire prevention work is most effective when carried out in partnership with other organisations to support those most at risk from fire. As such, London Fire Brigade works closely with all 32 London Boroughs and the City of London, the Met Police, and care agencies, as well as other external partners, to identify those in need of support via a referral process. During a recent review of London Fire Brigade’s safeguarding processes and systems, our ICT Security staff identified the organisational benefit, particularly in line with local authorities, offered by the secure electronic transmission of confidential information to third parties. As a result, we deployed Egress Switch to meet this need.”

The Solution

“Switch has been effective for London Fire Brigade as it integrates with our existing infrastructure,” Vanessa Skinner continues. “In particular, [Egress Switch Secure Email](#) works with our email client to provide a simple ‘one-click’ encryption solution, so that email content and any attachments are securely and easily shared with our partners.”

Egress UK Sales Manager Kelly McCann comments: “The remit of fire services’ work includes not only attendance at emergency incidents but also fire prevention and community awareness, meaning that information must be shared with external organisations. Switch enables organisations to manage the secure exchange of electronic information with external third parties, and London Fire Brigade’s decision to adopt Switch Secure Email and [Switch Secure File Transfer](#) means that we are now providing encryption solutions to both of the UK’s largest fire and rescue services, following [Scottish Fire and Rescue Service’s adoption.](#)”

About Egress Software Technologies

Egress Software Technologies is the leading provider of hosted and on premise encryption services, designed to secure all forms of electronic information and delivered to customers in the Public and Private Sectors using a single platform: Egress Switch.

As the first and currently only email encryption product and service to achieve both CESG Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) certification and Pan Government Accreditation (PGA), Switch Secure Email enables customers to share highly sensitive information over the internet, without the need to manage external third party credentials. The award-winning Switch portfolio of products also includes Secure File Transfer, Secure Web Form and the latest online collaboration offering, Secure Workspace.

Using patented key management, the platform utilises a unique community-based licensing model known as ‘the Egress Trust Network’ that consists of paying and free Switch subscribers, who are able share information securely with one another using a single global identity.

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