



UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

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Ashley Pereira
Information Security Officer
University of Westminster

The University of Westminster selects Egress encryption services to communicate confidential student and employee data securely

Based across six Central London locations and providing courses to more than 20,000 students, the University of Westminster identified the need to encrypt the sensitive student and employee data shared by and between different departments. With numerous employees already members of the Egress’ trusted network, a community of paying and free subscribers communicating securely using a single global identity, the university recognised the advantages of formally integrating Egress Email and File Protection into their existing infrastructure.

The Challenge

Ashley Pereira, Information Security Officer at the University of Westminster, explains: “Initially, our requirement came from our Overseas Department, who organise student placements at the university, as well as study periods abroad for UK-based students, and consequently needed a mechanism for transferring large volumes of confidential data securely.”

A widespread network of users

“We already had a number of free Egress users in our organisation who had been using the system to communicate securely with several London borough councils and we were therefore very aware of how effective it could be.”

Multiple layers of security

“In particular, the ability to apply additional layers of security was of great importance for the university, providing further assurance over the third parties accessing this information.”

Securing all electronic communications

“Since implementing Email and File Protection we’ve already seen uptake across the university’s other departments. The HR Department, for example, now uses the solution to protect confidential employee data shared internally. Our next step is to examine further ways to enhance the university approach to data protection using the extended Egress platform, for example Egress Secure Web Form.”

Increasing data protection awareness

“It is encouraging to see how the use of Email and File Protection has increased awareness of the importance of secure communication amongst the university’s employees.”

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The Solution

“We already had a number of free Egress users in our organisation who had been using the system to communicate securely with several London borough councils and we were therefore very aware of how effective it could be,” continues Pereira.

“By adopting a fully integrated, centrally managed approach, we have been able to take better advantage of Email and File Protection’s sophisticated encryption and control functionality that ensures sensitive data is protected throughout the lifecycle of shared information. In particular, the ability to apply additional layers of security was of great importance for the university, providing further assurance over the third parties accessing this information.”

The UK’s only CESG certified email encryption product, Email and File Protection offers end-to-end data protection, with the ability to enforce package restrictions and revoke access to sent information extending users’ control over the information they share. End-user verification can also be enhanced using multi-layered authentication: securing sensitive information using information known only to the sender and recipient to apply additional layers of security.

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Speaking about the announcement, Egress UK Sales Manager Kelly McCann comments: “The University of Westminster’s adoption of Email and File Protection reflects a growing trend amongst education providers to communicate sensitive student and employee data securely.

“It is encouraging to see how the use of Email and File Protection has increased awareness of the importance of secure communication amongst the university’s employees – and by working closely together, we have been able to implement a solution that not only offers comprehensive data protection but is also a system that they are familiar with.”

About Egress Software Technologies

Egress Software Technologies is the leading provider of privacy and risk management services designed to manage and protect unstructured data.

Offering Government and Enterprise customers a portfolio of complementary services, the Egress platform leverages machine learning led policy management, encryption and eDiscovery to enable end-users to share and collaborate securely, while reducing the risk of loss and maintaining compliance. These award-winning integrated services include email and document classification, accidental send prevention, secure email and file transfer, secure managed file transfer, secure online collaboration and secure archive.

Certified by Government, Egress offers a seamless user experience, powerful real-time auditing and patented information rights management, all accessible using a single global identity.

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