Barracuda.
Your journey, secured.

Big-time security for lean digital agency

Agile IT team gets enterprise-grade application security.

ONE NORTH

Meeting client needs with enhanced security and cloud hosting

In order to meet the growing needs of its clients—including large consulting and law firms around the nation—this Chicago-based digital agency required enterprise-level security despite having a lean IT team.

"When we decided it was best for our clients to migrate to Microsoft's Azure cloud, we knew we had to ensure we had the security tools that our clients required," explains Zach Peer, director of technology and managed hosting at One North.

"The solution has been fantastic. It's automatically inspecting incoming requests and blocking malicious ones, but it's also acting as a load balancer to keep site performance up."

Zach Peer
Director of Technology
One North

"When we began our migration, customers rightly emphasized that security was critical. We looked for the best solution to protect our front door in the cloud—our apps."

Peer's team tested several different solutions and chose Barracuda CloudGen WAF. "It was the best performing, with the

Profile

- One North is a digital agency that helps global clients build, maintain, and secure a winning online presence.

- Founded in 2012, the company is headquartered in Chicago and employs 100 individuals.

- As a lean organization with fewer resources to combat an increasing number of online threats, "securing the front door" was a top priority.

Challenges

- Maintaining a high level of security to protect sensitive data for internal, partner, and external users

- Finding a full-featured web application firewall solution with complete Azure integration

Solution

Barracuda CloudGen WAF for Azure

Results

- Maintained customer confidence with advanced, scalable application security

- 5 years of uptime with no application-based cyber attacks

- Fast, award-winning live support help to address deployment issues.

features and ease of use that we needed," Peer says.

After selecting Barracuda, the technology team took nearly a full year to migrate all company applications, content management systems, marketing campaigns, and hosted websites—"basically our entire technology stack," Peer says. Given the complexity of One North's infrastructure, there were a number of issues to be resolved.

Five years running

"It took a lot to get everything finely tuned," says Peer. "We had a lot of support tickets, phone calls, and a week-long training session with technical support to get the issues resolved."

Barracuda customer and technical support were as good as their reputation. "We've always gotten great support from Barracuda," Peer says. "Problems will always happen. But how you deal with them is what matters. For us it matters that Barracuda provides the support we need for our complex and unique security posture."

Since getting the system up and running, "The solution has been fantastic," he says. "It's automatically inspecting incoming requests and blocking malicious ones, but it's also acting as a load balancer to keep site performance up. What's more, Barracuda CloudGen WAF is easy to customize, so we can tweak security settings for individual apps, hosting environments, and incoming traffic that we know is either valid or malicious."

The solution has worked so well, in fact, that One North hasn't incurred a single application-based cyberattack in the last five years—since putting Barracuda CloudGen WAF in production. "For our internal, partner, and public users, the product is still working," Peer concludes.

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Learn more about Barracuda CloudGen WAF for Azure

barracuda.com/products/webapplicationfirewall

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