

Lean mail-serving machine



Kerio Connect 7

nect 7, has just been released.

Now, no, sure. Not everyone necessarily needs a mail server, you can rely on this as a service from ISPs and various other providers along the stream, so to speak.

What about if you want your email on multiple devices, your desktop, smartphone, and laptop for instance. A carefully-executed myriad of specific settings adjustment will get you most of the way there. But not quite.

Of course if you want this sort of flexibility with your email, it's likely because you're running an office. An office means a business, and as a business, well, you're obliged to archive your company email store. It's a record of evidence after all. So you already know that, actually, your own mail server is a very helpful thing.

Kerio Mail has been a leader in SME mail-servers since, seemingly since mail-servers became a good idea. Now it's changed, we suppose to reflect the more diverse needs of email uses these days, and the latest version, Kerio Con-

nect 7, has just been released. It's a product we're familiar with, but even so the interface still impresses immediately with its slickness. Its superb combination of user-comprehensible and extremely powerful at, well being a mail-server, this software is.

While Kerio Connect 7 has a new skin with its name change, underneath it remains very similar to the product we mail-server aficionados know as Kerio Mail. But there are some really good new features in this latest version to make an upgrade worth it.

Such as the support of mobile devices as alluded to earlier. Mobile Web and email is quickly becoming the norm these days with the proliferation of smartphones into the market, so Kerio had to put it in there really. Anyway, it is, and it works with no sweat at all.

Then, yes, you get full archiving compliance, automated backups and restores which don't even have to bring the system down for a moment, clever anti-spam, a dual-engine anti-virus platform. You also gain a central email data repository which is completely in

and under your control, now for the first time also boasting full manageability remotely via the Web.

But perhaps most crucial of all the new features of Kerio Connect 7, is its extensibility. It will install on top of a wide variety of operating systems, including all flavours of Windows, current and previous generations of Mac OS, various Linux distributions and even Solaris. More than being able to install to this base, it also integrates with all the standard mail clients used on these software platforms, so whether your users are on Macs or PCs, Windows or Linux won't mean much to you, you will still be able to manage, control, backup and store a complete email repository. It's really ingenious.

And what about if you have a server machine for the task but don't as yet even have an OS on it? Still not a problem, as this helpful company even provides fully working VMWare and Parallels virtual appliances! They've just made it so easy for you to deploy and get started. It's functionality-rich right out the box as well, even before you start playing with any of the management options. And it doesn't take an uncommon ICT

talent to be able to adjust these settings to suit your exact needs, anyone with some slightly-above-basic PC literacy will manage.

All of this for a mere 75 – 110MB download, depending on your platform of choice (around 600MB for the virtual appliances). For a robust, secure email repository and distribution service which is controlled in-house rather than by an uncaring, untouchable Web-based provider. It's definitely worth the investment – for us the built-in smartphone support was enough to win us over, and all the other great features mere bonuses!

Russell Bennett

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|-------------------------|
| Liked |
| Extensive capabilities |
| Appliance functionality |
| Smartphone support |
| Disliked |
| Nothing |

For full details, go to <http://www.kerio.com/connect>

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