

**STONESOFT**



**Case Study - Conyers Dill & Pearman**

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## **StoneGate Ensures Always-on Business Connectivity for Global Operations**

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# StoneGate simplifies complex distributed network management

Based in Bermuda, and one of the largest off-shore based law firms, Conyers Dill & Pearman needed a superior networking solution to ensure continuous business uptime and minimize the difficulties of managing a complex distributed network. This was essential to maintaining the firm's global productivity, especially in remote places. After evaluating several solutions, the company chose to cluster and deploy the StoneGate firewall/VPN solution with Multi-Link™ technology to guarantee seamless ISP and device failover, maintain always-on connectivity across its branch locations despite ISP downtime, device outages or inclement weather, and enhance network performance. The firm experienced immediate benefits by clustering the StoneGate firewall/VPN solution at each location, remotely managing network security updates from headquarters and reducing scheduled maintenance windows, which significantly reduced overall IT costs.

## Achieving enhanced productivity with global reach

Established in 1928, Conyers Dill & Pearman is a well-respected multi-jurisdictional offshore law firm that works with clients around the globe ensuring that pressing legal matters, in the areas of company and commercial law, commercial litigation, and private client dealings, are handled in a timely manner. The firm maintains a wide-ranging and vigorous law practice that has significantly expanded to include eight different jurisdictions: Bermuda, Hong Kong, Singapore, London, British Virgin Islands, Cayman, Anguilla, and most recently Dubai.

Since the firm services clients across varying time zones, it is vitally important that Conyers Dill & Pearman's global operations have continuous business uptime to proficiently handle pressing legal matters and offer its clients a truly seamless experience in using offshore international law services.

## Meeting business growth with proactive measures

The firm's expansive infrastructure – over 400 companywide employees with approximately 250 staff in Bermuda and 150 workers in global locations – and distributed systems design, required that Conyers Dill & Pearman's IT staff take a proactive approach to maintaining its technology systems to support the company's growing business needs. This was critical to the firm's ability to mitigate the potential networking and security challenges that can arise within distributed environments, while ensuring that business interruptions were avoided.

The firm's IT, information systems and support were centralized at its Bermuda location, and Conyers Dill & Pearman's IT staff started evaluating their VPN solution to gauge if it could handle the demands of adding new remote locations. Since each new branch office that the firm added would be linked back to the kernel network via a VPN, having a solution that featured failover capabilities was necessary to maintaining continuous communications between the global offices.

"The firm had one central domain name, so that all email was routed through Bermuda and then distributed over VPN's to

overseas offices. In order to plan ahead for business continuity and be confident that our network technologies would scale to meet the pace of our growing business needs, we needed a fully redundant VPN solution," said Ken Siggins, Conyers Dill & Pearman IT Manager.

## Partner recommends Multi-Link technology to prevent network downtime

Conyers Dill & Pearman contracted with CCS, a Bermuda-based integrator that has a wide range of experience with security and high availability, to evaluate VPN products that would guarantee uptime.

After CCS evaluated the project, CCS presented Stonesoft's integrated StoneGate firewall/VPN solution with Multi-Link technology, and the firm was immediately impressed with the superior failover capabilities that seamlessly ensured Internet redundancy across multiple ISPs. The StoneGate platform also offered Conyers Dill & Pearman a total network security solution for a strong perimeter defense with VPN reliability, adding a level of insurance that supported the organization's business continuity initiatives.

Conyers Dill & Pearman signed with CCS and selected the StoneGate firewall/VPN primarily because of the Multi-Link technology that supports continuous network uptime, ISP load-balancing and efficient Internet connectivity – even during scheduled network updates.

## Patented clustering technology ensures business as usual in unusual places

The StoneGate firewall/VPN solution solved several immediate and underlying network security issues, including redundancy and enhanced network management. During the installation the firm's network engineer traveled to each of the eight locations to implement the new firewall/VPN appliances, while CCS established the connections via StoneGate's remote management function to configure the devices. The network engineer worked with CCS through the global scale deployment process to troubleshoot common network challenges as they came up.

Initially, the firm purchased a 10-site license but has already added several more appliances to equip the latest Conyers Dill & Pearman branch in Dubai. All locations

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**Terrance Dean – Senior Engineer – Conyers Dill & Pearman**



were installed with a clustered StoneGate firewall/ VPN node, and the kernel network in Bermuda has dual ISP connections.

“The StoneGate solution definitely gives us what we were looking for in terms of feature sets and capabilities,” said Senior Engineer, Terrance Dean. “The results were immediate after deploying the StoneGate firewall/VPN as we were able to route specific firewall traffic within the first week by graphically setting up rules and efficiently making changes across the network, saving us a tremendous amount of time compared to our previous solution.”

### **Centralized management of complex, remote networks**

In addition to resilient connectivity, the firm realized that Stonesoft’s solutions proved much easier to manage in a distributed environment. The StoneGate Management Center enables network administrators to access an up-to-date view of the firm’s dispersed network activity by querying log servers and aggregating data into one place. The remote update capabilities are also a great asset to the network engineers when they are rolling out new firewall policies, updating software, changing features or ISPs.

“In order to put a new rule in place on our previous firewalls, I had to manually update it in six different locations before the rule could work,” said Dean. “Before deploying StoneGate, the addition of a rule could take anywhere from two or three hours and now it takes a few minutes – which is a huge improvement. Also, having the graphical interface is great because we can easily see what is in place.”

### **Increased network security ROI**

Through StoneGate’s technical modularity, network engineers can customize settings down to the application level to best meet the firm’s top-line security and business continuity priorities, ensuring a higher ROI on network security.

Conyers Dill & Pearman has also saved on bandwidth management costs with StoneGate’s compression capabilities. The firm can now push more traffic across the same size pipe previously used before the firm added its last two locations.

“From a management point-of-view, the StoneGate solution gives us greater technical flexibility to be proactive in supporting a strong contingency plan, said Dean. “The VPN’s Multi-Link resilient connectivity with dynamic reconfiguration gives us the capabilities to better protect the firm against the negative impacts of network downtime.”

Since using StoneGate the firm has enjoyed continuous connectivity with no major network interruptions – even during remote systems upgrades and regularly scheduled maintenance.

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**Terrance Dean – Senior Engineer  
– Conyers Dill & Pearman**

## Conyers Dill & Pearman Challenges

- Limited redundancy without seamless failover to multiple ISPs
- Complex distributed network, including very remote locations
- No remote management capabilities
- Costly IT support expenses
- High capital costs for insufficient bandwidth

## Results with Stonesoft

- Uninterrupted network uptime
- Centralized management capabilities for remote office
- Greater technical flexibility
- Increased ROI
- Resilient connectivity with built-in load balancing and clustering

## About Conyers Dill & Pearman

Conyers Dill & Pearman is an international offshore law firm that specializes in company & commercial law, commercial litigation and private client matters. The Firm advises on the laws of Bermuda, British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands.

Established in 1928, Conyers Dill & Pearman pioneered the concept of multi-jurisdictional offshore law. Conyers Dill & Pearman became the first offshore law firm to venture outside the home jurisdiction when we set up our office in Guernsey. The Firm now has a presence in several different jurisdictions across the globe and is the first law firm to provide multi-jurisdictional advice on the corporate laws of Bermuda, British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands.

By virtue of having an established and respected presence in each of our jurisdictions, Conyers Dill & Pearman has become renowned for quality, dispassionate advice and has garnered a reputation as being the offshore law firm of choice.

## About CCS

The CCS Group Limited is a rapidly growing Bermuda-based information technology and communications integrator that offers a variety of best-of-breed networking and security solutions built to address today's business needs. CCS provides high quality IT consulting services, management and support for technology solutions in the following areas: networking, internetworking, software development, telephony and IP telephony, and infrastructure cabling.

## Stonesoft

Stonesoft Corporation (OMX: SFT1V) is an innovative provider of integrated network security solutions to secure the information flow of distributed organizations. Stonesoft customers include enterprises with growing business needs requiring advanced network security and always-on business connectivity.

StoneGate™ Secure Connectivity Solution unifies firewall, VPN, IPS and SSL VPN blending network security, end-to-end availability and award-winning load balancing into a centrally managed system. The key benefits of StoneGate Secure Connectivity Solution include low TCO, excellent price-performance ratio and high ROI.

StoneGate Management Center provides unified management for StoneGate Firewall with VPN, IPS and SSL VPN. StoneGate Firewall and IPS work together to provide intelligent defense throughout the enterprise network while StoneGate SSL VPN provides enhanced security for mobile and remote use.

Founded in 1990, Stonesoft Corporation is a global company with corporate headquarters in Helsinki, Finland and Americas headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit [www.stonesoft.com](http://www.stonesoft.com).

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