



DEWi – built for e-Gov

The Welsh Assembly Government turned to eLINIA to develop a new data transfer facility for schools in Wales. The new bilingual system known as DEWi (Data Exchange Wales Initiative), allows Schools, LEAs and the Welsh Assembly Government to share and exchange statutory data files securely over the Internet, helping to meet e-GIF requirements.

The Data Exchange Wales initiative (DEWi) allows Schools, LEAs and the Welsh Assembly Government to share, exchange, validate and report on statutory data securely over the internet, helping to meet e-Government guidelines. DEWi has achieved over 99.9% availability since it went live in January 2006; over 5,500 files have been exchanged by 99% of schools and 100% of LEAs in Wales.

The Need

The challenge for the Assembly was to choose a solution that ensured the integrity of the data, which was flexible and cost effective. eLINIA together with their application partner Method4 developed a solution with in built security functionality to ensure the pupil data that is stored on the system is never at risk of falling into the wrong hands.

The Solution

The solution proposed has a platform is protected by a layer of highly available firewalls, Intrusion Prevention (IPS) devices, plus an antivirus solution that scans all documents being uploaded to the system before they reach the server. This, coupled with a security tuned operating system build, tightly controlled logical and physical security procedures, and a team of government vetted administrators, provide an environment that keeps data safe.

e-Government National Award Finalist

The highly successful and innovative system reached the finals of the e-Government National Awards 2006 after being nominated by the Welsh Assembly Government. DEWi reached the finals in the category 'e-Government excellence: Shared Services' that seeks to recognise proven shared services which have delivered effective services and efficiency gains. Darren Chapple, Method4's Technical Director said, "We are



delighted that the Welsh Assembly Government and Method4 have been recognised for their commitment to innovative e-Government solutions." Jane Davidson, Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills commented, "recognition through the e-Government awards celebrates our ability to use technology effectively and innovatively to meet the needs of all those committed to our vision of Wales as a learning country." The awards have become the UK's highest level commendation for the best e-Government services. Through innovative online delivery or IT implementation, these services have positively transformed the lives of citizens, local communities, business and stakeholder groups. The awards are supported by the Cabinet Office e-Government Unit, the Office of Government Commerce; the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) and the Society of IT Management (SOCITM).

eLINIA delivers managed ICT solutions for business. UK based and specialising in secure managed hosted solutions, eLINIA offers the highest levels of service. eLINIA believes in building very close relationships with its clients, so there is a real understanding of what business function a particular application performs. Through this integration, eLINIA can deliver a service that is truly pro-active, flexible and agile.

