

A variety of new USB products have a level of sophistication in what can be managed and what data is allowed on the managed endpoints, says Peter Stephenson.

When we started looking at USB security products, we actually had no idea what we would find. Vendors of many types of products — from those that protect USB ports to those that protect data at USB ports — presented their wares. We found

something interesting in all of the sub-categories.

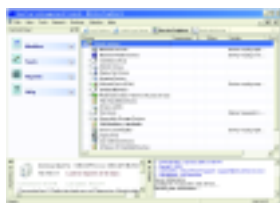
The most obvious types of USB security products, at least in the enterprise environment, are those that allow direct management of the USB ports on enterprise computers.

The bottom line for this group

of USB devices and software was that there are ways — with improved functionality and granularity over last year — to manage what is and what is not allowed at the endpoints of the enterprise, especially relating to the USB ports and the data that may be accessible through them.



Sanctuary Device Control v4.1



Supplier SecureWave
Price \$45 per seat
Contact www.securewave.com

SecureWave's Sanctuary Device Control is part of a much larger suite of products that all fall into the Sanctuary line. While Device Control can secure against many I/O devices — including securing ports, such as firewire, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth — it has excellent control of USB devices, such as thumb drives. Device Control can block USB devices based on policy set-up for either a single user, group of users or a computer. This product works on the basis of whitelisting devices and can also provide encryption to removable media.

We found this product to be fairly straightforward and easy to

use. The installation process is guided by an HTML document that provides a step-by-step deployment process with live links to the executables and installers needed at specific points in the installation. Once the product is set-up, the management interface is a little bit overwhelming at first, with a slightly confusing layout.

However, after spending a few minutes, you discover how powerful this product really is.

With easy integration into either an Active Directory domain or a Novell network, this product has excellent flexibility. Device Control can work directly with the already created groups, users or computers in your current domain, providing extended permissions based on drives or ports. Client deployment is easy and can be done by using the Deployment Console manually or by deploying a Domain Group Policy Object via Active Directory.

Device Control has useful documentation, including set-up guides, architecture layouts and quick deployment guides. We found all documentation to be easy to read and navigate.

Product support and maintenance are included as part of the product purchase. Professional services are available for policy assessment and development and product implementation. SecureWave offers a class for administrators that includes two days of classroom training and a half-day WebEx session.

At a price of \$45 per seat we find this product to be great for all environments. With integration into both Microsoft- and Novell-based networks it provides excellent flexibility. For its flexibility and strong features we award this our Best Buy.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Documentation	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Features	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★
OVERALL RATING	★★★★★
Strengths	Easy deployment with flexibility, effective network integration.
Weaknesses	Management interface can be difficult to navigate when first using the product.
Verdict	Very strong product with good feature set. Best Buy.

Easy deployment with flexibility, effective network integration.

— Peter Stephenson



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