

Business Product Comparative

ESET Smart Security vs. McAfee Total Protection for Endpoint

(Source: "Fast and Effective Endpoint Security for Business"; Comparative Analysis by PassMark Software; June 2010)

PassMark Grades ESET Smart Security "Fastest, Best Overall Performance"

Ratings and Summary

PassMark Software has given each security product a rating which reflects its overall performance, ease of use, design, features and level of excellence in that category. Categories represent major functions or feature sets common to the sphere of business security.

	ESET	McAfee
Overall Rating	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆1/2
Installation & Configuration	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆
Migration	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆
Default Policies	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆1/2
Client Installation	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆
Interface Design	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆1/2
Client & Policy Management	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Remote Management	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆☆☆1/2
Updates	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Common Use Cases	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆
Effectiveness	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆1/2
Performance	☆☆☆☆1/2	☆☆1/2

Performance

The following performance categories have been selected as 'real-life' metrics which may impact heavily on endpoint system performance and responsiveness. These benchmarks allow the comparison of the level of impact that business security software products may have on endpoint machines. Products with good performance will have less impact on business activities, workflow and productivity.

	ESET	McAfee	ESET Advantage
Install size (MB)	284	554	Requires 48% less disk space for installation
Memory usage commit charge (MB)	102.46	225.40	Uses 54% less system resources to perform tasks
Word document launch time (ms)	7,488	10,274	Launches Word documents 27% faster
Word document restart time (ms)	2,151	2,454	Restarts Word documents 12% faster
File copy time for small files (s)	25.35	38.07	Copies documents 33% faster
File copy time for large files (s)	83.70	87.20	Copies media files 4% faster
Client signature database size (MB)	28.62	97.60	70% smaller footprint on the local disk drive
Boot time (s)	27.72	35.95	Takes 22% less time to start your machine
Daily network traffic (MB)	4.06	74.53	94% smaller impact on corporate network

Features and Functions

Evaluation categories were determined prior to testing and were chosen as a set of expected features or functions which define business security products. Below is a list of ESET's advantages over McAfee's solution.

ESET's Advantages:

- The Remote Administrator console is highly compatible with most variants and legacy versions of ESET security products, all of which can be managed simultaneously from a single platform
- Endpoints can be automatically sorted into extremely powerful parametric groups as they join the network
- Signature updates are transportable (feature advantageous for administrators managing machines on isolated networks)
- Fast and streamlined installation process
- Basic set up guide is extremely user focused
- Default policies provide a good balance for most deployments

McAfee's Disadvantages:

- Highest amount of traffic generated by update client out of all tested products
- Initial server task and policy configuration is not straightforward and requires patience or experience
- Initial launch of ePolicy Orchestrator from the final prompt appears to crash the web application
- Quick Start Guide appears to be a high level marketing document rather than the expected "Quick Start" guide
- Some default policies created on installation are on the more restrictive side – may impact some business functions and endpoint users

Effectiveness

This category rates the anti-malware effectiveness of a security product based on information from recently published material at reputable, third party testing sites. The sources we have used for this category are VB100 and AV Comparatives.

	ESET	McAfee
VB100 awards (#/success ratio)	62/ 97%	48/70%
# of Advanced+ awards in proactive/retrospective tests	13	2

Ease of Use

This category examines the relative ease of use and handling for three common management use cases. The scenarios are: conducting an 'on-demand' scan of selected endpoints; creating and viewing a malware report 'on-demand'; and creating, assigning and deploying a new policy.

Task	ESET	McAfee
Conducting an 'on-demand' scan of selected endpoints	Simple	Moderate
Creating and viewing a malware report 'on-demand'	Simple	Moderate
Creating, assigning and deploying a new policy	Simple	Moderate