



An Important Tool that Allows Healthcare Professionals to Conduct Business Online

By David Rodriguez
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Until recently, most encryption solutions have been cumbersome, expensive and difficult to implement, which has prevented many small- to mid-sized businesses from protecting the contents of their e-mails.

Healthcare professionals, particularly those who conduct business online, need to ensure that they are implementing security measures to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Since HIPAA regulations were put into effect, healthcare providers have to be more sensitive in protecting their patients' information. Patient records and files sent via electronic means must be protected against unauthorized access so transmission across the Internet must be secured.

Verizon Secure Mail is an enterprise-grade e-mail encryption product that encrypts e-mail messages and attachments, protecting the privacy of their contents right at the desktop as they travel from the sender to the recipient. Verizon Secure Mail is cost effective, easy to use and can be set-up quickly by simply downloading a plug-in.

Each time the subscriber wants to protect sensitive patient information, he can simply press the "secure" icon. The e-mail along with its attachments is encrypted right at the sender's desktop and remains encrypted until the intended recipient decrypts the message. A Verizon Secure Mail subscriber can send a secure e-mail message to anyone, including contacts or patients that are not subscribers of the service, with confidence that only the intended recipient will be able to open it. Non-subscribers will get an e-mail alerting them that they have received an encrypted e-mail and can simply click on a link to retrieve it (password protected) at the Verizon Message Pickup Center.

Verizon Secure Mail is available to healthcare organizations of all sizes, from a private practice with a few doctors to a large medical center with thousands of users. Verizon, a leader in delivering products to enhance small- to mid-sized businesses, is now offering the first 30 days FREE of its Secure Mail. Go to www.business.verizon.net to sign up now or for more information.

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