Email Encryption for Healthcare: Four Surprising Ways OpenText Makes Email Encryption Easy

Discover the measures healthcare providers need to thrive in an evolving threat environment



Introduction



> Healthcare providers are under greater pressure than ever to minimize expenditure, while ensuring the best possible outcomes and protecting patient and business data. They need security solutions that deliver protection and compliance, without complexity.

For providers seeking ways to secure their communications, this isn't always easy to find. Many established email encryption platforms are difficult, cumbersome, and time-consuming to use.

This kind of complexity comes with significant risk attached. When email encryption tools are difficult to use, people won't use them. And when users don't bother to use them, it opens healthcare providers up to huge security risks.

However, skipping encryption simply isn't an option in today's cybersecurity landscape. The threat landscape has increased exponentially in the last few years. And it isn't showing signs of slowing down anytime soon.

All organizations—but especially those who deal with sensitive information—need an easier way to encrypt emails. And they might be surprised to learn that there is one: OpenText Cybersecurity's Email Encryption.



This guide will shed light on **four ways** that OpenText Cybersecurity's Email Encryption simplifies the email encryption process and provides healthcare professionals with an experience that's simple, streamlined, and secure.

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Transparent Delivery



One of the biggest pain points clinicians and administrators face when encrypting emails is the extra complexity it adds. Using encryption has traditionally complicated the sending and receiving process, adding portals, secret passwords, and extra steps.

Nobody wants to make recipients go out of their way just to read an email. And when you use OpenText email encryption, they won't have to.

OpenText Cybersecurity's Email Encryption (powered by Zix) makes the email recipient process as easy as possible. If a message is going to other members of the OpenText email encryption world, the email is automatically encrypted, making it easy to receive.

How it works

Many healthcare providers and organizations working with healthcare data rely on encrypted communication to carry out daily tasks. Let's use the example of a hospital communicating with a claims processor. There's a pretty good chance that the email content being sent between these two parties contains sensitive information.

When both the sender and the recipient are OpenText Cybersecurity clients, the platform encrypts outgoing emails regardless of the email content. Because they also use OpenText Cybersecurity, the recipient doesn't need to go through any extra decryption process.

No portal, no passwords, no extra steps – just a blue bar at the top of the email confirming it was sent securely. From there, the recipient can reply to the email exactly as they would a regular email.

OpenText Cybersecurity's Email Encryption also makes the recipient process intuitive for non- OpenText clients, for instance your third-party health insurers or clinical partners. The recipient secure-email portal is designed to allow any authorized person to quickly access, read, and reply to encrypted emails — no fuss and no time wasted.



Automatic Email Encryption with State of the Art Filters



Security tools are only effective when people use them. But IT departments only have so much influence over which actions their employees take when sending information over email.

Many healthcare organizations have expanded their employee training amid an increased threat landscape. Even so, there are more opportunities than ever for sensitive patient information to be exposed accidentally.

Data protection isn't just an organizational issue. It's also a regulatory one. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that all patient data is kept secure and private. With traditional email encryption solutions, this burden falls on clinicians and administrators every time. For healthcare organizations, this is an added layer of complication on top of an often-hectic landscape for employees.

What's more, some employees don't even know when they've sent sensitive information (consider the example of someone sending a spreadsheet attachment that has a hidden column of Social Security numbers they failed to see). Thankfully, OpenText Cybersecurity offers automatic encryption, removing the burden from employees of having to remember to encrypt sensitive emails every time they send one.

How it works

OpenText Cybersecurity's Email Encryption provides out-of-the-box automatic policies for HIPAA, Social Security numbers, and financial information. When a policy is triggered—whether the sender has elected to encrypt the email or not—emails can be encrypted, blocked or quarantined.

The result is that any email containing sensitive information is automatically encrypted, saving both employees and the organization at large from the consequences of a security breach.

How automatic encryption helps healthcare organizations focus on patient care









MEMORIAL HERMANN

Memorial Hermann relies on OpenText Cybersecurity to stay HIPAA-compliant

The staff at Memorial Hermann have an impressive reputation to uphold. The integrated health system is one of the largest not-for-profit health systems in Southeast Texas. It relies on the dedicated and tireless work of 5,500 physicians and over 26,000 employees.

Quality and patient safety are top priorities for Memorial Hermann. Every employee is held to high standards where these values are concerned. This means taking patient privacy very seriously, and putting the right solutions in place to ensure these values can't be easily compromised.

But policies like HIPAA put a potentially large burden on the end user. Without an automatic encryption solution, staff would need to be extremely vigilant about which emails should be encrypted.

In short, Memorial Hermann needed an email encryption solution that would allow them to protect patient privacy automatically while keeping communication flowing smoothly between physicians, nurses, staff, patients, and outside healthcare organizations.

They found that solution in the form of OpenText Cybersecurity Email Encryption. Since the product comes with out-of-the-box automatic policies for HIPAA, Social Security numbers and financial information, Memorial Hermann never had to put their staff through the undue stress of having to ensure the right controls were in place at the right time.

With these custom filters applied, everyone who's a part of Memorial Hermann can send emails worry-free. Any sensitive information that passes through the network's custom spam filters is automatically encrypted, which provides "A way for us to meet our HIPAA requirements and automatically prevent spillage for everyone in our organization," says the organization's Cyber Security Analyst.





For Connecticut Orthopaedics, email encryption is an important part of a zero-trust frameworks

Mark Filiault had ambitious goals as the CIO of Connecticut Orthopaedics. He describes himself as having been "hyperfocused on trying to evolve the organization to be more in line with a zero-trust framework."

"Secure communication became a vital part of how we could be more advanced and a better choice in the marketplace."

Mark Filiault
Chief Information Officer
Connecticut Orthopaedics

This goalpost only continued to move as the cybersecurity landscape grew more complicated. For Mark, this meant having to double down and implement stronger layers of security to keep the organization safe from threats.

A key aspect of this push for layered security was implementing an email encryption solution. As Mark explains, "We needed an innovative and safe way to communicate with other physicians, insurance companies, patients, and more," while keeping sensitive information safe. This meant staying HIPAA-compliant by looking for a solution that would automatically detect—and encrypt—any information that HIPAA influenced.

Mark found the right solution in OpenText Cybersecurity's Email Encryption, and immediately noticed a tremendous change in the way staff were able to communicate.



Having the right tool, he says, has allowed the organization to "embrace regulation, rather than running away from it."

As he says, "Secure communication became a vital part of how we could be more advanced and a better choice in the marketplace."



Seamless Integration and Purpose-Built Add-Ons



Encrypting potentially sensitive information is one way to protect your organization, clinicians, and patients from harm. But it's just one piece of the cybersecurity puzzle. Every organization has a unique set of needs, and an unknown number of potential threats that could severely affect operations at any time.

That's why it's important to ensure your email-encryption solution comes with purpose-built add-ons and can also seamlessly integrate with other security solutions. OpenText Cybersecurity can be easily integrated with your broader security architecture. And it is also part of a larger network of threat protection that keeps your organization safe.

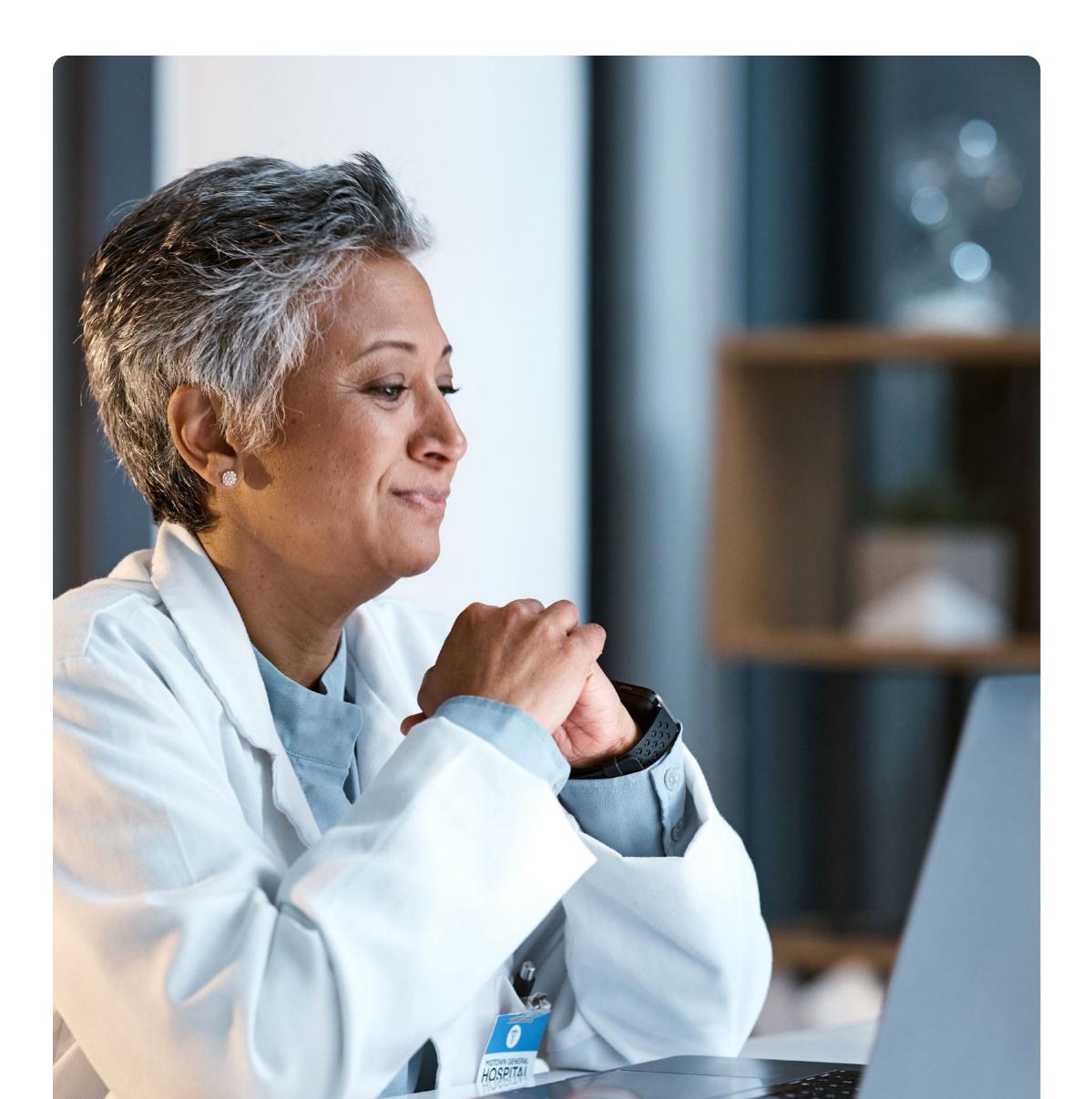
How it works

OpenText Cybersecurity brings together several features that can be brought in to improve and enhance the overall user experience. Let's take a look at each:

Enable Single Sign-On with SAML 2.0

Some organizations have strict authentication requirements, and others want a seamless experience between their current company website and their branded portal. In both cases, Single Sign-On (SSO) is available as an additional service at no extra cost.

SSO allows a user to login to their custom-branded OpenText Cybersecurity portal with existing credentials they already use for the customer's website or other applications. Without having to login again, users click a link to be taken directly to their secure inbox. This feature is implemented in using SAML 2.0, which authorizes user access to web services across organizations.





Protect inbound and outbound emails with OpenText Threat Protection

Even with encryption offering substantial protection, there are still an ever-growing number of phishing attacks that can compromise business integrity, reputation, and even patient outcomes.

OpenText Advanced Email Threat Protection provides multi-layered filtering for both inbound and outbound emails that lets the right emails through while blocking malicious threats such as phishing, ransomware, impersonation, business email compromise (BEC) and spam.

OpenText Email Threat Protection is built to offer best-in-class protection:



Attachment Quarantine performs forensic analysis on attachments in a secure, cloud-based sandbox environment. It can also instantly deliver a disarmed version of files by removing macros or converting files to PDF.



Link Protection rewrites links to safe versions and performs time-of-click analysis on the destination address. Based on testing, users are either automatically redirected to a safe site, provided a warning for suspicious sites, or blocked from potentially malicious sites.



Message Retraction (for Microsoft 365) enhances incident response with the ability to retract malicious emails already delivered to users' inboxes. This minimizes risk by taking malicious email out of users' hands and quickens remediation. The system also keeps a detailed audit trail.



24/7/365 Live Threat Analyst Team constantly identifies new threats, updating the system and providing warnings.

OpenText Cybersecurity is an Essential Part of a Powerhouse Portfolio

Healthcare organizations need to effectively reduce risk, preserve trust, and minimize disruption. From prevention, detection, and response to recovery, investigation and compliance, and robust end user training, OpenText Cybersecurity helps customers build cyber resilience via a holistic security portfolio of smarter and simple solutions delivered through our unified end-to-end platform.

Want to learn more about how OpenText Cybersecurity can help make email surprisingly secure and simple?

Request a demo here

About OpenText



OpenText Cybersecurity provides comprehensive security solutions for companies and partners of all sizes. From prevention, detection and response to recovery, investigation and compliance, our unified end-to-end platform helps customers build cyber resilience via a holistic security portfolio.

Powered by actionable insights from our real-time and contextual threat intelligence, OpenText Cybersecurity customers benefit from high efficacy products, a compliant experience, and simplified security to help manage business risk.

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