

# digital.forest / CommuniGate Pro - Case Study

Founded in 1994, digital.forest is the premier database and application-hosting company serving small and medium-sized businesses and corporate workgroups around the globe. digital.forest offers both shared- and dedicated-server solutions for Web-enabled databases and applications on Macintosh, UNIX, and Windows systems.

They currently utilize 2 CommuniGate Pro installations on MacOS X to host email for about 3000 customers (totaling about 10,000 separate domains). Initially they installed CommuniGate Pro on Free BSD, but found the performance much better on Mac OS X.

Before CommuniGate Pro, digital.forest ran Sendmail on Free BSD. They switched to CommuniGate Pro because they required more advanced functionality, such as IMAP and Webmail. And most importantly for digital.forest, they now offload many administrative duties to their customers. CommuniGate Pro supports domain level administration, so that each customer can maintain their own users, passwords, quotas, mailing lists, etc.

Chuck Goolsbee V.P. Technical Operations, says he is impressed with the performance of CommuniGate Pro because it “works as advertised.” “Many email servers that claim to do X, Y and Z, can barely do X. Everything that Stalker says it will do, it does,” says Goolsbee.

Goolsbee likes to tell the following story of an extremely successful installation that convinced digital.forest to become a reseller of CommuniGate Pro:

A national ISP/ASP for real estate agents was running Exchange to host email for 3000 of their users. The environment consisted of 6 servers, with 12 administrators overseeing the unstable system. After an outage that had lasted for three days, they called digital.forest to solve the problem. digital.forest saved the day with the help of CommuniGate Pro! They started with one Linux server, installed CommuniGate Pro in 30 minutes, migrated the users in 1.5 hours, and were up and running the same afternoon.