

Whether you are a global business or a home user protecting personal files, authentication and identity verification are challenges, says **Michael Lipinski**.

Every week there's another article on identity theft and another network is breached. We are all challenged with securing our computers. Whether you are a business securing a global communication system or a home user protecting your personal files and online account

information, authentication and identity verification are two challenges we all face.

As a business, we want to know that it's really you accessing your private information. As a user of a service, we want to know that no one else can pretend to be "me" and gain access to our information.

At the end of the day, there are numerous choices available for adding stronger authentication into your current user name and password authentication model. You will find yourself balancing risk, cost and ease of use when choosing the right solution for you or your organization.

## IdentityGuard v9.1



**Vendor** Entrust

**Price** \$8 per user

**Contact** [www.entrust.com](http://www.entrust.com)

Entrust IdentityGuard v9.1 provides an enterprise platform enabling strong authentication for the Windows desktop, remote access deployments, as well as VPN and web-based applications. The tool is a versatile authentication platform that enables security across diverse users, transactions and applications.

Our sample was provided on a virtual platform, so we did not walk through the entire server side installation. However, an extensive review of the documentation convinces us that the initial implemen-

tation would be comparable to the other solutions examined in this Group Test.

The management interface did not initially appear to be intuitive, but we found that after working around it for a while, it really was fairly easy to use and we did get used to the navigation the more we used it. The management interface offered a single point of administration and logging, regardless of the end-user configuration.

We found high availability features in IdentityGuard to support multiple repositories and failover functions for critical enterprise deployments. User audit details could be found in the web interface, but we were unable to see a good reporting function for bringing all those details to a usable, consolidated format.

This authentication platform supported most hard and soft tokens and provided a range of authentication capabilities to balance security, user experience and cost.

The Self Service Server provides the end-user with a means of managing their registration and account administration, reducing the burden on the IT staff.

There are several fee-based support options available, including phone and web-based offerings. The documentation was complete and accurate, and walked us through everything we wanted to do and test.

The IdentityGuard was very impressive and would be a strong competitor for any enterprise-strong authentication and password management project.



Nicely integrated platform that provides all the options needed for any small to large enterprise deployment. We rate this product Recommended.

**Michael Lipinski**

### SC MAGAZINE RATING

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Features        | ★★★★★ |
| Ease of use     | ★★★★☆ |
| Performance     | ★★★★★ |
| Documentation   | ★★★★★ |
| Support         | ★★★★★ |
| Value for money | ★★★★★ |

### OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

**Strengths** Very strong offering with an attractive price point that provides numerous options.

**Weaknesses** All we found to be less than expected was reporting and limited authentication options for Windows logon.

**Verdict** Nicely integrated platform that provides all the options needed for any small to large enterprise deployment. We rate this product Recommended.

**Entrust**<sup>®</sup>  
Securing Digital Identities  
& Information

#### Entrust

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