

It is the nature of smartphones/PDAs that they are used away from the enterprise, but securing these devices is not a trivial undertaking, says **Peter Stephenson**.

This may be the toughest group review we've had in the SC Lab in a long time. We consider a PDA or smartphone to be a unique beast. Many of these products have portable versions of common OSs (Microsoft Windows, e.g.) and all can run applications that

are equal or similar to typical MS Office applications.

There are two areas that cause a lot of potential problems. The first is the required Microsoft infrastructure, and the second is the public carrier infrastructure.

We recommend that you begin with a solid implementation of

your infrastructure that permits your choice of PDA/smartphone to communicate without the security software.

Once you have the Microsoft infrastructure and the public carrier issues addressed, you can think about adding the security software.

## SafeGuard PDA v4.25



<b>Vendor</b>	Utimaco Safeware
<b>Price</b>	\$60 per device
<b>Contact</b>	<a href="http://www.utimaco.com">www.utimaco.com</a>

Utimaco Safeware's SafeGuard PDA enterprise offers organizations the control to use PDAs within their architecture, while still protecting sensitive data from unauthorized users. SafeGuard PDA's use of advanced security algorithms and biometrics keeps confidential information secure at rest and in motion regardless of where the data may reside. The product is administered centrally and is easy to deploy. SafeGuard PDA enforces security settings and policy rights management that is transparent to the end-user.

We found this product to be very simple to use and configure. The initial installation comprises two pieces. The first is the administration piece, which is run on a server. Once the installation is complete, an administrator adds the administration template to the group policy snap-in where all configurations and options are set. The installer for the PDA is the second piece and this can be pushed to the devices via group policy as well.

SafeGuard PDA performs very nicely in an enterprise environment. On both the administration and user sides this product is well-integrated and very simple to use. Since all configurations are done via group policy, it is easy for an administrator to configure the appropriate types of policy for specific users.

The SafeGuard PDA comes with several manuals and documentation sheets for deployment. The manuals take a step-by-step approach to deployment and demonstrate the functionality scalability of the product. The manuals offer different alternatives to setting up and configuring the product to address users' needs

and to provide the functionality best suited for the organization.

Utimaco has a well-designed online support site. The site is easy to navigate so finding contacts and support information is quick and simple. A full online support portal, called MyUtimaco, provides a way to submit a trouble ticket, download patches and search a knowledge base of FAQs and articles.

At \$60 per device we found this product to be an excellent value for money. Its simple administration and good feature set, combined with its ease of use, make this product a solid buy for almost any size enterprise.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★
<b>OVERALL RATING</b>	<b>★★★★★</b>
<b>Strengths</b>	Easy to deploy and simple to administer with a solid feature set.
<b>Weakness</b>	None that we found.
<b>Verdict</b>	For its overall capability and excellent value we designate this our Recommended product.



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**Peter Stephenson**

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