

press releases

Proofpoint Closes \$20 Million Financing Round

Bridgescale Partners Joins Proofpoint's List of Blue-chip Investors

Cupertino, Calif. – March 23, 2006 – Proofpoint, Inc., the leader in large-enterprise messaging security solutions, today announced that the company has closed \$20 million in financing, led by late-stage and expansion venture capital fund Bridgescale Partners. All previous investors — including Benchmark Capital; Inventures Group; Meritech Capital Partners; Mohr, Davidow Ventures and RRE Ventures — also participated in this oversubscribed funding round, bringing Proofpoint's total raised capital to more than \$58 million. The funds will be used for Proofpoint's continued global expansion and product development.

"Bridgescale specializes in providing expansion capital to later-stage technology companies with strong revenue growth and a desire to scale their businesses to the next level. Proofpoint's impressive customer list, comprehensive product suite, seasoned management team and proven business model make it a natural investment for us," said Rob Chaplinsky, co-founder of Bridgescale Partners. "Proofpoint is uniquely positioned to dominate the emerging, multi-billion dollar market for inbound and outbound messaging security solutions and we're excited to be part of Proofpoint's continued growth."

"Since Proofpoint's last major funding round, the company has grown its customer base by more than 400%, introduced five new product modules and built a strong recurring revenue stream," said Gary Steele, president and CEO of Proofpoint, Inc. "This latest round of funding will help further grow Proofpoint's business and position the company as the leading global provider of both inbound messaging security and outbound content security solutions."

Proofpoint protects the messaging systems of more than 500 enterprises—such as Hertz, Kaiser-Permanente, Kawasaki Motors Manufacturing Corp., Mary Kay, National Instruments, NTT Communications, Outback Steakhouse, Pacific Sunwear, Penn Mutual Life, Pitney Bowes, Princeton University and the State of Missouri—across a wide variety of industries including financial services, government, education, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, retail, and manufacturing.

The company recently concluded its best year ever, more than doubling its business and customer base over 2004 and reporting 64% sequential growth from the third to fourth quarter of 2005.

"Proofpoint's investors and directors are exceptionally impressed with the company's strong execution, carefully managed growth and track record of technology innovation," said Eric Hahn, chairman and founder of Proofpoint, Inc.

In addition to the new round of funding, Proofpoint also announced that it has expanded its financial partnership with SVB Silicon Valley Bank, a subsidiary of SVB Financial Group. SVB Silicon Valley Bank has extended a \$7.5 million line of credit to Proofpoint which can be used to provide working capital for ongoing expansion activities.

Proofpoint helps enterprises, universities and government organizations stop spam, protect against email viruses, ensure that outbound messages comply with both corporate policies and external regulations and prevent leaks of confidential information via email and other network protocols.

Proofpoint's messaging security solutions are powered by Proofpoint MLX™, a patent-pending machine learning system for content classification and analysis. Proofpoint MLX techniques allow Proofpoint solutions to analyze the contents of outbound messages for regulatory compliance and privacy violations, identify the presence of confidential information, accurately categorize incoming spam messages and detect malicious network-level connections.

news

[Press Releases](#)[In the News](#)[Event Calendar](#)[Accolades](#)[Media Kit](#)

contact information

Andy Murphy**SparkSource for Proofpoint****781-418-2408****pr@proofpoint.com**

About Bridgescale Partners

Bridgescale Partners (www.bridgescale.com) is a Menlo Park, California based venture capital firm providing expansion capital to U.S.-based, later-stage technology companies. The founding team has more than 20 years of venture capital experience at leading early- and later-stage institutions and brings deep expertise in helping semiconductor, communication and internet companies scale their businesses. Bridgescale invests in companies that are at a stage where they need expansion capital to "scale" their business and "bridge" them to an IPO or other strategic goal.

About Silicon Valley Bank

Silicon Valley Bank provides diversified financial services to emerging growth and mature companies in the technology, life science, private equity and premium wine industries. Through its focus on specialized markets and extensive knowledge of the people and business issues driving them, Silicon Valley Bank provides a level of service and partnership that measurably impacts its clients' success. Founded in 1983 and headquartered in Santa Clara, Calif., the company serves clients around the world through its parent company SVB Financial Group's 27 U.S. offices and three international operations. More information on the company can be found at www.svb.com.

About Proofpoint, Inc.

Proofpoint provides messaging security solutions for large enterprises to stop spam, protect against email viruses, ensure that outbound messages comply with both corporate policies and external regulations and prevent leaks of confidential information via email and other network protocols. The company's flagship products, the Proofpoint Messaging Security Gateway™ and Proofpoint Protection Server® provide future-proof messaging security using Proofpoint MLX™ technology, an advanced machine learning system developed by Proofpoint scientists and engineers. Proofpoint was founded by technology visionary and former CTO of Netscape Communications, Eric Hahn. The Cupertino, California-based company is funded by investors including Benchmark Capital, Bridgescale Partners, Inventures Group, Meritech Capital, Mohr, Davidow Ventures, and RRE Ventures. For more information, please visit <http://www.proofpoint.com>.

#

Proofpoint, Proofpoint MLX, Proofpoint Protection Server, Proofpoint Messaging Security Gateway, Proofpoint Spam Detection, Proofpoint Virus Protection, Proofpoint Zero-Hour Anti-Virus, Proofpoint Content Compliance, Proofpoint Digital Asset Security and Proofpoint Regulatory Compliance are trademarks, registered trademarks or licensed trademarks of Proofpoint, Inc. All other trademarks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.

[search](#)

[resource center](#)



1 408 517 4710

