

NETWORK SECURITY FOR SMBs

3 REASONS WHY A FIREWALL IS NOT ENOUGH

With all the buzz around cloud and mobile computing, advanced persistent threats, inbound exploits, and IoT, the attack surface has become much more complicated. No wonder IT teams at small and mid-size businesses feel their network security is incomplete.

With 43% of all cyberattacks targeting SMBs, you can no longer afford to assume your firewall is doing it all.

Here are 3 reasons why it's simply not sufficient to check the IPS box on your next-generation firewall (NGFW) and consider your network protected.



Firewall overload.

Firewalls are expected to do a lot these days, sometimes at the cost of reduced security, to improve network performance. Dedicated next-generation Intrusion Prevention System (NGIPS) or Threat Intelligence Gateway (TIG) devices deployed outside the firewall can significantly reduce the firewall's workload and increase network throughput by up to 70% ... not to mention identify weaknesses and misconfigurations on the firewall itself.



Information overload.

Modern firewalls churn out a high volume of alerts and information, and IT pros generally don't have the time or expertise to effectively analyze all the data. Without knowing what to look for, the security of these devices is effectively wasted. NGIPS and TIGs, enhanced by real-time threat intelligence, can help administrators sift through the data to find the critical, actionable items and eliminate false positives.



Jack of all trades, master of none.

The modern firewall has become a jack of all trades. It's convenient, but comes at the cost of weakened security. As stand-alone devices, NGIPS provide more comprehensive, up-to-date coverage for risks related to hacker reconnaissance and malware C2 communication. In addition, TIGs are emerging as a simple yet effective tool to prevent known bad actors from probing the firewall and the external network.

“The most impressive thing we noticed when deploying Sentinel was all of the threats our firewall had been missing for years.”

NGIPS and TIGs are more affordable than you might think. And, given the potential cost to an organization of a single incident or breach, today's IT professionals and CISOs cannot afford to overlook the possibility of enhancing their security posture beyond the firewall.