

ABSTRACT

THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF THE CISCO SELF DEFENDING NETWORK

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The Self-Defending Network is Cisco's long-term strategy to protect an organization's business processes by identifying, preventing, and adapting to threats from both internal and external sources. This protection helps organizations take better advantage of the intelligence in their network resources.

Cisco Systems in October 2005 announced advancements to its Network Admission Control (NAC) framework that help protect organizations from threats such as spyware, viruses and worms attempting to gain network access through a growing number of endpoint devices. The Cisco NAC framework now includes support for Cisco Catalyst switch and wireless solutions, the expansion of the NAC partner program to include a new agentless auditing category, and enhancements to the NAC appliance family (formerly known as the Cisco Clean Access family).

Cisco in February announced significant new services to its "Anti-X" network threat prevention and Secure Sockets Layer Virtual Private Network (SSL VPN) solutions, underscoring its commitment to the Cisco Self-Defending Network security strategy. The new Content Security and Control security services module (CSC-SSM) for the Cisco Adaptive Security Appliance (ASA) 5500 Series provides a comprehensive set of market-leading Anti-X services. These services unify antivirus, anti-spyware, file blocking, anti-spam, anti-phishing, URL blocking and filtering, and content filtering.

Cisco also announced the availability of the Cisco Security Management Suite, a new integrated set of security management applications that provide an improved operational framework for system-wide security policy enforcement and administration. The Cisco Security Management Suite includes the new Cisco Security Manager (CSM) as well as a new version of the Cisco Security Monitoring, Analysis and Response System (Cisco Security MARS) version 4.2.

The presentation will examine these developments.