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Internet Edge Design Overview

SMART BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE

August 2012 Series

Preface

Who Should Read This Guide

This Cisco® Smart Business Architecture (SBA) guide is for people who fill a variety of roles:

- Systems engineers who need standard procedures for implementing solutions
- Project managers who create statements of work for Cisco SBA implementations
- Sales partners who sell new technology or who create implementation
 documentation
- Trainers who need material for classroom instruction or on-the-job training

In general, you can also use Cisco SBA guides to improve consistency among engineers and deployments, as well as to improve scoping and costing of deployment jobs.

Release Series

Cisco strives to update and enhance SBA guides on a regular basis. As we develop a series of SBA guides, we test them together, as a complete system. To ensure the mutual compatibility of designs in Cisco SBA guides, you should use guides that belong to the same series.

The Release Notes for a series provides a summary of additions and changes made in the series.

All Cisco SBA guides include the series name on the cover and at the bottom left of each page. We name the series for the month and year that we release them, as follows:

month year Series

For example, the series of guides that we released in August 2012 are the "August 2012 Series".

You can find the most recent series of SBA guides at the following sites:

Customer access: http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

Partner access: http://www.cisco.com/go/sbachannel

How to Read Commands

Many Cisco SBA guides provide specific details about how to configure Cisco network devices that run Cisco IOS, Cisco NX-OS, or other operating systems that you configure at a command-line interface (CLI). This section describes the conventions used to specify commands that you must enter.

Commands to enter at a CLI appear as follows:

configure terminal

Commands that specify a value for a variable appear as follows:

ntp server 10.10.48.17

Commands with variables that you must define appear as follows:

class-map [highest class name]

Commands shown in an interactive example, such as a script or when the command prompt is included, appear as follows:

Router# enable

Long commands that line wrap are underlined. Enter them as one command:

wrr-queue random-detect max-threshold 1 100 100 100 100 100

100 100 100

Noteworthy parts of system output or device configuration files appear highlighted, as follows:

interface Vlan64

ip address 10.5.204.5 255.255.25.0

Comments and Questions

If you would like to comment on a guide or ask questions, please use the SBA feedback form.

If you would like to be notified when new comments are posted, an RSS feed is available from the SBA customer and partner pages.

August 2012 Series

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What's In This SBA Guide

Cisco SBA Borderless Networks

Cisco SBA helps you design and quickly deploy a full-service business network. A Cisco SBA deployment is prescriptive, out-of-the-box, scalable, and flexible.

Cisco SBA incorporates LAN, WAN, wireless, security, data center, application optimization, and unified communication technologies—tested together as a complete system. This component-level approach simplifies system integration of multiple technologies, allowing you to select solutions that solve your organization's problems—without worrying about the technical complexity.

Cisco SBA Borderless Networks is a comprehensive network design targeted at organizations with up to 10,000 connected users. The SBA Borderless Network architecture incorporates wired and wireless local area network (LAN) access, wide-area network (WAN) connectivity, WAN application optimization, and Internet edge security infrastructure.

Route to Success

To ensure your success when implementing the designs in this guide, you should first read any guides that this guide depends upon—shown to the left of this guide on the route below. As you read this guide, specific prerequisites are cited where they are applicable.

About This Guide

This design overview provides the following information:

- · An introduction to a Cisco SBA design
- An explanation of the requirements that shaped the design
- A description of the benefits that the design will provide your organization

You can find the most recent series of Cisco SBA guides at the following sites:

Customer access: http://www.cisco.com/go/sba Partner access: http://www.cisco.com/go/sbachannel



Introduction

Cisco Smart Business Architecture (SBA) is a series of network design and deployment best practice guides for organizations with up to 10,000 connected users. An important segment of Cisco SBA is the Internet edge, where the corporate network meets the public Internet. As employees reach out to websites and use email for business-to-business communication, the resources of the corporate network must remain both accessible and secure.

Cisco SBA provides employees with the secure network access they require, from a wide variety of locations and devices. Cisco SBA for the Internet edge includes the following functional solutions:

- Firewall and intrusion prevention—Protects the network infrastructure and data resources from Internet-based threats such as worms, viruses, and targeted attacks.
- **Remote access VPN**—*Provides secure, consistent access to network resources from remote locations.*
- Secure mobile access—Provides network access through the public infrastructure for users with mobile devices.
- Email security—*Provides spam and malware filtering services* that help *p*rotect against lost data and reduced employee productivity.
- Web security using WSA—Provides acceptable-use control and monitoring while managing the increasing risk associated with clients browsing the Internet.
- IPv6 DMZ web service—Supports secure, seamless IPv6 and IPv4 co-existence to provide ongoing connectivity as customers and markets migrate to IPv6.

Notes

Internet Edge Design Solutions

Firewall and Intrusion Prevention

Firewalls and intrusion prevention systems (IPS) provide vital security at the Internet edge. Firewalls control access into and out of the different segments of the Internet edge to filter unwanted and malicious traffic. Many firewalls also provide a suite of additional services such as Network Address Translation (NAT) and multiple security zones. Support for policybased operation can enhance firewall effectiveness by providing security without interfering with access to Internet-based applications or hindering connectivity to business partners' data via extranet VPN connections.

Intrusion prevention systems complement firewalls by inspecting the traffic traversing the Internet edge to identify malicious behaviors.

Cisco SBA addresses firewall and IPS needs at the Internet edge with the Cisco Adaptive Security Appliance (ASA) firewall family. Cisco ASA firewalls provide affordable, enterprise-class performance and security in a scalable design that can readily adapt to changing needs. They are situated between the organization's internal network and the Internet to minimize the impact of network intrusions while maintaining worker productivity and data security.

The Cisco SBA Internet edge architecture uses Cisco ASA 5500-X Series firewalls, configured in routing mode in active/standby pairs for high availability. They apply NAT and firewall policy and support intrusion prevention modules that detect and mitigate malicious or harmful traffic.

Two deployment options are available to address Internet access requirements for high availability and to meet operational requirements for devicelevel separation between the remote-access VPN and the firewall. The design shown in Figure 1 uses a single Internet connection and integrates the remote-access VPN function in the same Cisco ASA pair that provides the firewall functionality.





Figure 2 shows a dual ISP design that provides highly resilient Internet access. This design uses a separate pair of appliances to provide a remote access VPN, which offers additional scalability and operational flexibility.

Figure 2 - Dual ISP topology



For more information about Cisco SBA firewall and IPS solution deployment, see the Cisco SBA—Borderless Networks Firewall and IPS Deployment Guide here:

http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

This guide focuses on the Internet edge firewall and IPS security services that protect your organization's gateway to the Internet. It covers the creation and use of demilitarized zone (DMZ) segments for Internet-facing services such as a web presence. The IPS content covers Internet edge inline deployments and internal distribution layer intrusion detection system (IDS) (promiscuous) deployments.

Remote Access VPN

Employees, contractors, and partners often need to access the network when traveling or working from home or from other off-site locations. Many organizations therefore need to provide users in remote locations with network connectivity to data resources.

A secure connectivity solution for the Internet edge should support:

- · A wide variety of endpoint devices.
- · Seamless access to networked data resources.
- Authentication and policy control that integrates with the authentication resources used by the organization.
- Cryptographic security to prevent sensitive data from exposure to unauthorized parties who accidentally or intentionally intercept the data.

Cisco SBA addresses these needs with the Cisco ASA Family and Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client.

The Cisco ASA Family of security devices provides a full complement of security services, including intrusion prevention, VPN, content security, unified communications, and remote access. All Cisco ASA devices support IP Security (IPsec), web portal, full-tunnel Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) VPNs for client-based remote access, and IPsec for site-to-site VPN.

The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client is recommended for remote users who require full network connectivity. The Cisco AnyConnect client uses SSL and is designed for automated download and installation. SSL access can be more flexible and is likely to be accessible from more locations than IPsec, as few companies block HTTPS access out of their networks.

Cisco SBA offers two different remote-access VPN designs:

- Remote-access VPN integrated with Cisco ASA Series firewall (integrated design module): This option is available with a lower capital investment and reduces the number of devices the network engineering staff must manage.
- Remote-access VPN deployed on a pair of standalone Cisco ASAs (standalone design module): This design offers greater operational flexibility and scalability while providing a simple migration path from an existing RA VPN installation.

For detailed configuration information about implementing a remote-access VPN via Cisco AnyConnect for SSL connections, see the *Cisco SBA*— *Borderless Networks Remote Access VPN Deployment Guide* here:

http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

This guide includes sections for configuring a variety of access methods, beginning with a configuration that is common to all of the access methods. Configurations for both the integrated and standalone design modules offer identical functionality and capability, so the user experience is unchanged regardless of the design chosen. Unless specifically noted, the configuration described in this document is common to both the integrated and standalone designs.

Secure Mobile Access

One of the most profound advances in modern networks is the degree of mobility those networks support. Users can move around wirelessly inside the campus and enjoy the same degree of connectivity as if they were plugged in using cables in their offices. Users can leave their primary networks completely and work from a home-office environment that offers the same connectivity and user experience as they would get in their offices. Users also have the option of being truly mobile and connecting from any place that offers Internet access. With smartphones and tablets, this mobility now commonly includes connecting while travelling down the highway or on a train.

Because these mobile users are outside the traditional perimeter (or physical border) of the network, their devices are exposed to potentially more malicious activity than a device that is located inside the protection of the network. Businesses must provide connectivity solutions that are not only secure, but offer seamless operation that facilitates productivity.

The Cisco SBA Internet edge design addresses mobile device security with the AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution client and the Cisco ScanSafe Cloud Web Security service.

Mobile remote users generally connect to the network using either laptop computers or the newer group of mobile devices that includes smartphones and tablets. Because the devices operate and are used differently, the capabilities currently available for each group differ.

The Cisco SBA Internet edge design covers remote-access VPN for laptops running the Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution client (for SSL VPN or IP Security [IPsec] connections). A feature built into the Cisco AnyConnect 3.0 client is the ability to interface with the Cisco ScanSafe Cloud Web Security service. This feature gives the Cisco AnyConnect client the ability to let Internet web traffic go out through a Cisco ScanSafe proxy directly to the destination without forcing it through the organization's headend. Without Cisco ScanSafe, the traffic must be routed down the VPN tunnel, inspected at the campus Internet edge, and then redirected to the original destination. This process consumes bandwidth and potentially increases latency. With Cisco ScanSafe, the connection can be proxied through the Cisco ScanSafe cloud and never has to traverse the VPN tunnel (Figure 3).

Figure 3 - Traffic flow through VPN tunnel and Cisco ScanSafe Cloud



For more information about providing your employees with secure mobile access through the Internet edge, see the *Cisco SBA—Borderless Networks Remote Mobile Access Deployment Guide* here:

http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

This guide describes business-use cases related to the truly mobile users who use a laptop, smartphone, or tablet device to connect through infrastructure that is not provided by their organizations. It covers the additional configuration for remote access VPN for the Cisco AnyConnect 3.0 client that is required to activate Cisco ScanSafe Web Security, Always On, and other features. It also covers interaction with the Cisco ScanSafe Cloud management tool, ScanCenter. Last, the document covers configuration of Cisco ASA to support mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets, and also the configuration of the Cisco AnyConnect client that is required for those devices to connect to Cisco ASA.

Email Security Using ESA

Email is a critical business service used by virtually everyone, every day, which makes it an attractive target for hackers. The two major threats to email systems are spam and malicious email.

If spam is not properly filtered, its sheer volume can consume valuable resources such as bandwidth and storage, and require employees to waste time manually filtering through messages. Or, legitimate messages may be discarded, potentially disrupting business operations.

Malicious email most often consists of *embedded or phishing attacks*. *Embedded attacks contain* viruses and malware that perform actions on the end device when clicked. *Phishing attacks attempt* to mislead employees into releasing sensitive information such as credit card numbers, social security numbers, or intellectual property.

Failing to protect an email service against spam and malicious attacks can result in a loss of data and employee productivity.

Cisco Email Security Appliance (ESA) protects the email infrastructure and employees who use email at work by filtering unsolicited and malicious email before it reaches the user. The goal of the solution is to filter out positively identified spam and quarantine or discard email sent from untrusted or potentially hostile locations. Antivirus scanning is applied to emails and attachments from all servers to remove known malware.

Cisco ESA easily integrates into existing email infrastructures by acting as a Mail Transfer Agent (MTA), or mail relay, within the email-delivery chain. A normal email exchange, in which an organization is using an MTA, might look like the message flow shown in Figure 4. Figure 4 - Email message flow



Cisco ESA can be deployed with a single physical interface to filter email to and from an organization's mail server. A second, two-interface configuration option transfers email to and from the Internet using one interface, and to and from internal servers using the second interface. The Internet Edge design uses the single-interface model for simplicity.

For more information about email security and Cisco ESA, see the *Cisco SBA—Borderless Networks Email Security Using ESA Deployment Guide* here:

http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

This guide focuses on protecting the email infrastructure and employees who use email at work. It describes how SPAM and malicious email can threaten data and reduce productivity, and how Cisco ESA uses a multilayer approach that combines reputation-based and context-based filtering with the use of antivirus signatures to prevent unsolicited and malicious email from reaching users.

Internet Edge Design Solutions

Web Security Using WSA

Web access is critical for the day-to-day functions of most organizations, but its benefits come with associated risks. Policy-based web access can help ensure that employee web use is aligned with company goals, and that personal web activity does not waste bandwidth, affect productivity, or expose the organization to undue risk.

Cisco S-Series Web Security Appliance (WSA) addresses the need for a corporate web security policy by offering a combination of web usage controls with category and reputation-based control, malware filtering, and data protection. Cisco WSA is a web proxy that works with other Cisco network components such as firewalls, routers, or switches in order to monitor and control web content requests from within the organization. It also scrubs the return traffic for malicious content (Figure 5).

Figure 5 - Web security deployment in the borderless network



Cisco WSA is connected by one interface to the inside network of Cisco ASA. In the Internet edge design, Cisco WSA connects to the same LAN switch as the appliance and on the same VLAN as the inside interface of the appliance. Cisco ASA redirects HTTP and HTTPS connections using the Web Cache Communication Protocol (WCCP) to Cisco WSA.

For more information about supporting secure, productive, and resourceefficient web access using Cisco SBA, see the Cisco SBA—Borderless Networks Web Security Using WSA Deployment Guide here:

http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

This guide focuses on using Cisco S-Series WSA in an Internet edge solution. It covers the mechanisms used to apply web security and content control, such as URL-filtering with category-based Cisco web usage

controls, as well as the use of transparent proxy mode and explicit proxy mode deployments for redirecting web traffic to Cisco WSA.

IPv6 DMZ Web Service

IPv4 addresses are no longer available from the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), and the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) will soon run out as well. Technologies such as NAT and the use of RFC 1918 addressing will allow most organizations to continue operating on IPv4 for the foreseeable future, but the transition to IPv6 is already occurring in some regions and will quickly spread worldwide. To maintain network operations and prepare for a future in which IPv6 will play an increasingly large role, businesses must begin phasing IPv6 connectivity into their IPv4 environments.

Cisco SBA accommodates IPv6 Internet edge servers while continuing to support IPv4 clients by using a dual stack approach. A dual stack architecture allows logically separate IPv4 and IPv6 networks to coexist on the same equipment. IPv6 can be added to Cisco SBA Internet Edge through additional configuration of existing software that is specified for the existing IPv4 Internet Edge (Figure 6). The solution includes reconfiguring Cisco ASA firewalls, which are managed via IPv4. The Cisco ASA firewall for IPv4 provides application inspection and IPS for applications running over IPv6.

Figure 6 - IPv6 Internet Edge deployment architecture



For more information about addressing IPv6 integration using Cisco SBA, see the Cisco SBA—Borderless Networks IPv6 DMZ Web Service Deployment Guide here:

http://www.cisco.com/go/sba

This guide shows how to use existing hardware in the Internet edge to support native IPv6 access to Internet-facing services. The example solution accommodates IPv6 HTTP and HTTPS web traffic to and from the Internet edge.

Notes

Feedback

Click here to provide feedback to Cisco SBA.



SMART BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE

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