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Cisco Announces Availability of Network Admission Control Solutions

Offers support on access and midrange Cisco IOS routers, broadens vendor integration program and delivers advanced NAC implementation services

SAN JOSE, Calif., June 21, 2004 – Cisco Systems, Inc., today announced the availability of solutions delivered through its Network Admission Control (NAC) program, which help customers extend their existing network systems to defend against viruses and worms. Combined with a broadened vendor integration program and new Advanced Services for NAC implementations, customers will be able to more quickly deploy these threat-defense capabilities into their networks.

The NAC program, which was first announced in November 2003, now supports the Cisco® 830 Series to Cisco 7200 Series access and midrange Cisco IOS® Software-based routing platforms as well as Cisco network security management and access products (see “Pricing and Availability” section below), to help enforce network access privileges based on endpoint security information. A key component of the NAC program is the Cisco Trust Agent software, which resides on desktop and server endpoints and collects security state information from multiple third-party security software clients such as antivirus clients. The Cisco Trust Agent software communicates this information to the Cisco network where network-access-control decisions are made and enforced. To facilitate deployment, Cisco Trust Agent software is available integrated with the Cisco Security Agent, an endpoint security solution to prevent day-zero and other attacks, to help ensure endpoint-operating-system patch compliance.

"Complex and ever-changing security threats require a systems-level approach and industry collaboration to dynamically protect networked business-critical resources," said Ken

Kucera, senior vice president of First National Bank. "The Cisco Network Admission Control program lets us use the network in our endpoint-validation efforts to audit and enforce our endpoint-security policies, and reduce our risk to potential damages caused by worms and viruses."

Cisco Systems® has defined the architecture and specifications of the NAC program in collaboration with leading antivirus software companies including Network Associates, Symantec and Trend Micro, as well as leading network- and system-management vendors such as IBM. Cisco is licensing its Cisco Trust Agent technology to NAC co-sponsors Antivirus products that include support for Cisco Trust Agent include Network Associates' McAfee® VirusScan® Enterprise 8.0i and McAfee VirusScan Enterprise 7.x, upcoming versions of Symantec Client Security and Symantec AntiVirus Corporate Edition, and the Trend Micro OfficeScan Corporate Edition v6.5.

Cisco is also introducing a NAC vendor integration program, to help provide broader third-party participation in the NAC program, along with a set of advanced NAC implementation consulting services to assist customer deployments of NAC technologies in their networks.

The NAC vendor integration program is designed to foster further industry collaboration, and includes the availability of select NAC technology application programming interfaces (APIs), including an API for Cisco Trust Agent, to third-party vendors for product integration, testing and certification. The goal of creating this broad vendor program is to dramatically increase the range of solutions that will be NAC-enabled, including security and patch management software.

The Advanced Services NAC implementation consulting services are an integrated set of planning, design and implementation offerings to help customers deploy a reliable, efficient and scalable NAC solution. These include:

- **NAC Readiness Assessment:** Assess the network infrastructure to determine NAC readiness
- **NAC Limited Deployment:** Install a limited NAC deployment to test features and gain experience
- **NAC Design Development:** Develop a NAC design specification for a corporate-wide deployment
- **NAC Implementation Engineering:** Deliver onsite installation, configuration, testing and tuning of NAC components

Cisco plans to extend NAC support to additional Cisco platforms including its switching and remote access virtual private network (VPN) solutions, support for the 802.1x security protocol, and expanded Cisco Trust Agent operating system (OS) support including Windows 2003, Linux

and Solaris. NAC support in the switching infrastructure will help enable customers to ensure endpoint compliance with corporate security policies before obtaining local-area-network (LAN) access.

Today's announcement underscores Cisco's continued leadership in the network security market, and is a key component of Cisco's Self-Defending Network security strategy to help customers build networks that can identify, respond and adapt to security threats.

Pricing and Availability

All components of the first release of NAC are now available at no additional charge to customers with the corresponding product support contracts. These include Cisco IOS Software Release 12.3(8)T using the Advanced Security image or higher feature set on Cisco 830 Series to Cisco 7200 Series routers, Cisco Secure Access Control Server (ACS) version 3.3, Cisco Security Agent version 4.0.2, and CiscoWorks Security Information Management Solution (SIMS) version 3.2. The Cisco Trust Agent version 1.0 is now available at no charge as well. The NAC vendor integration program is scheduled to be available in the third quarter of calendar year 2004. The Cisco Advanced Services NAC implementation consulting services are now available.

NAC Partner Information:

For additional information about NAC partner product support and availability, contact:

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About Cisco Systems

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