

## How Cisco IT Upgraded Intrusion Prevention Software to Improve Endpoint Security

Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 thwarts malicious behavior while reducing costs associated with virus and worm remediation.

### BUSINESS BENEFITS

- Reduces costs associated with virus and worm remediation
- Increases employee productivity by impeding virus infections
- Detects previously infected systems
- Provides ease of use for employees
- Is easily configured and customized
- Gives companies confidence in executing normal business functions

Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 has proven very effective. Out of 38,000 devices, only 15 to 20 infected hosts are discovered each week.

**Organizations of all sizes are protecting their networks against the catastrophic effects of viruses, worms, and similar network security intrusions.** In 2005, Cisco Systems® deployed an enhanced version of its Cisco® Security Agent solution in its own network, providing even greater security against virus and worm infections.

**Remediating security threats is an ongoing challenge.** Even after the deployment of Cisco Security Agent Version 4.0 in 2004, threats to the network continued to grow, requiring new features and capabilities to secure the network from malicious behaviour.

**Cisco implemented Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 to prevent against increasing threats.** Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 goes beyond conventional endpoint security solutions by identifying and preventing malicious behavior before it can occur, removing potential known and unknown security risks that threaten enterprise networks

and applications. The solution provides built-in policies that recognize unusual behavior across diverse applications and operating systems.

**New enhanced features and capabilities.** Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 offers several enhancements over the previous version, including added scalability, international language support, user-based rules and policies, location-based rules and policies, application inventory tracking, hot-fix/service-pack checking, secure clipboard data, antivirus DAT version check, and platform support for Windows clusters, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, and Windows XP Home Edition.

**Proven highly effective.** The cost of holding viruses at bay represents a real cost savings for Cisco, which estimates the cost to clean up an infected PC at \$300. To date, Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 has proven very effective. Out of more than 38,000 devices, only 15 to 20 infected hosts are discovered each week. More importantly, Cisco has not experienced a P1 virus outbreak in more than 18 months.

**In addition to cost savings and productivity,** Cisco Security Agent Version 4.5 provides a new level of confidence. When the next virus outbreak occurs, Cisco will have a robust layer of defence in place. If the next virus manages to circumvent e-mail gateway filters and virus scanning software, Cisco Security Agent is there on each desktop waiting to prevent it from spreading any further.

**Case Study:** [http://www.cisco.com/web/about/ciscoitwork/case\\_studies.html](http://www.cisco.com/web/about/ciscoitwork/case_studies.html)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

To read the entire case study or for additional Cisco IT case studies on a variety of business solutions, visit Cisco on Cisco: Inside Cisco IT [www.cisco.com/go/ciscoit](http://www.cisco.com/go/ciscoit)

## NOTE

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