Cisco Intrusion Detection and Prevention Solutions for the Branch

Comply with Regulatory Mandates in Branch Sites

Computer network vulnerabilities are continually emerging. And the threats aren’t just limited to your data center. If you have branch sites – such as retail stores or bank ATMs – they, too, can fall prey to the latest malware. That’s why these and other industries have to comply with regulatory requirements to protect customers’ credit card, banking, and other sensitive data.

To comply, you need a solution that works at the point of entry to thwart intrusions before they infiltrate the network and cause damage. And before they are backhauled to your data center for security scanning, wasting bandwidth.

Cisco offers two cost-effective, router-based intrusion prevention options to protect customer data and other network traffic in the branch:

- Cisco® Snort IPS for the modular Cisco 4000 Series Integrated Services Routers (ISR)
- Cisco IOS® Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) for Cisco 800, 1900, 2900, and 3900 Series ISRs

Both options deliver traditional intrusion detection and prevention by comparing network traffic to continually updated databases of known malware and threat signatures.

Snort for the 4000 Series ISRs

Based on the open-source Snort IPS, the Cisco Snort IPS is a cost-effective, industry-recognized approach to safeguarding your branch connections and data. You simply maintain the Snort IPS engine on your 4000 Series routers by downloading rule set updates from the Cisco Talos Security Intelligence and Research Group. Cisco Talos network security experts work around the clock to proactively discover, assess, and respond to the latest trends in hacking activities, intrusion attempts, malware, and vulnerabilities.

Snort IPS complements other integrated security features on the 4000 Series routers such as VPNs, firewalls, and Cisco Cloud Web Security for a cost-effective yet secure network infrastructure solution.

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Cisco IOS-based IPS for G2 and 800 Series Routers

The Cisco IOS IPS is also a traditional signature-based IPS solution. It operates on the Cisco Generation 2 (G2) ISRs (the 1900, 2900, and 3900 Series) and 800 Series routers.

Unlike other IPS solutions, Snort IPS on the 4000 Series and the Cisco IOS IPS are fully integrated into your branch router and can be centrally managed. You can match budget and throughput requirements of each of your sites by selecting the right ISR model.

Next Steps