



Cisco Network as a Sensor

Use Your Cisco Network as a Powerful Security Sensor

Your network continuously faces advanced cyberattacks. Hacking has now evolved into a sophisticated, multibillion-dollar global enterprise. Meanwhile, the number of connected devices is growing exponentially because of the rapid expansion of cloud services, mobility, and the Internet of Things (IoT). Each connection is a potential entry point of attack into your network.

With so many access attempts occurring beyond the traditional enterprise network perimeter, you now need security everywhere. Fortunately, your Cisco network already contains what you need to do the job. We call it the Cisco® Network as a Sensor solution. By simply activating the embedded security capabilities in your Cisco network, you can transform your network into a full-blown security monitoring system that gives you broad and deep and visibility into your network and everything that connects to it.

Benefits

- **Gain networkwide visibility** by turning your entire network into a security sensor.
- **Obtain contextual threat intelligence** with real time NetFlow data.
- **Reduce risks** by understanding how, when, where, and why users and devices connect to your network.
- **Save time and control costs** by building upon existing security investments in your network infrastructure.

“100 percent of the business networks analyzed by Cisco teams have traffic going to websites that host malware.”

Cisco 2014 Annual Security Report

Increase Visibility: You Can't Mitigate What you Can't See

If you can't see network threats, how can you defend against them? The Cisco Network as a Sensor solution addresses this issue head-on. You get the global network visibility you need in the form of detailed security analytics generated by Cisco [IOS® Flexible NetFlow](#), contextual data from the Cisco [Identity Services Engine \(ISE\)](#), and real-time monitoring and alerts from partner technology, Lancope StealthWatch.

The solution determines the baseline profile for your network. From there it can then rapidly detect malicious activities – abnormal data movements, suspicious traffic, advanced threats – anywhere in your environment. You see how your traffic is flowing, which devices are accessing your network and what malicious activities might be taking place on your network.

Timely and Efficient Threat Intelligence Information

With the solution, you can rapidly identify the source and target information about user, device, location, and other critical attributes behind IP addresses. Such information allows you to significantly shorten the time to discover and identify malicious behavior on the network.

Next Steps

To learn more about using the Cisco Network as a Sensor solution, visit the Cisco [Enterprise Network Security](#) page.