

# Do internally generated messages such as alerts and notifications get scanned by filters, anti-spam, or anti-virus?

TAC

Document ID: 118105

Contributed by Tomki Camp and Stephan Bayer, Cisco TAC Engineers.  
Jul 29, 2014

## Contents

**Types of internally generated messages:**  
Cisco ESA Email Pipeline

## Question

Do internally generated messages get scanned by filters, anti-spam, or anti-virus?

## Answer

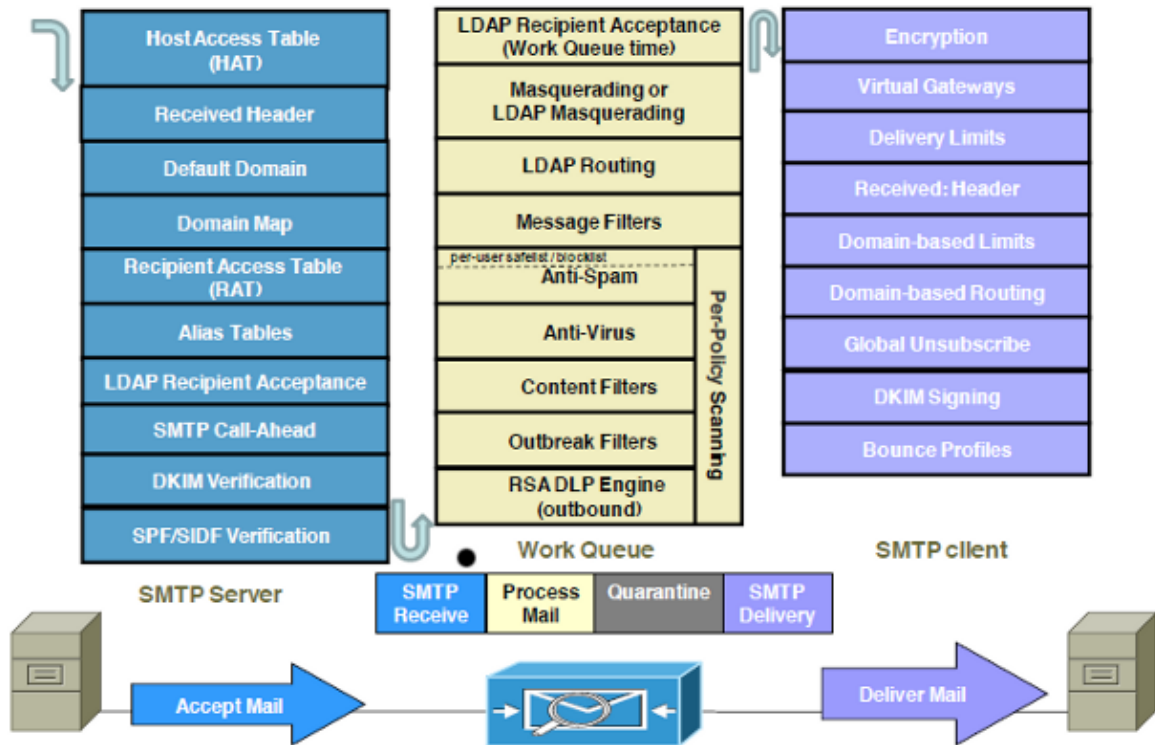
Any internally generated messages do not go through the filter engine, or any other part of the "Per Policy" Scanning section of the email pipeline such as anti-spam or anti-virus.

## Types of internally generated messages:

- **Alert messages** are generated by the ESA to notify the designated recipient of changing status conditions on the ESA.
- **Notify messages** are generated by the notify filter action. (These messages contain the full headers of an observed message but do not include the content of the message)
- **Bcc messages** are generated by the bcc filter action. These messages are complete copies of the original message, which may include viruses or spam.
- **Bounce messages** are generated by either filter actions, or failures during normal message delivery attempts.
- An alternative to bcc is **bcc-scan**, which will send the message through the work queue like a normal message, scanning for both viruses and spam. However, they will not be sent through message filters again. This prevents potential delivery of viruses to the bcc'd address.

## Cisco ESA Email Pipeline

# Cisco IronPort Email Pipeline



For more information about message filter actions, see the AsyncOS for Email Advanced Configuration Guide :

Cisco Email Security Appliance End–User Guides

Updated: Jul 29, 2014

Document ID: 118105