Cisco ASA: All-in-One Firewall, IPS, And VPN Adaptive Security Appliance
Synopsis

Identify, mitigate, and respond to network attacks. Understand the evolution of security technologies that make up the unified ASA device and how to install the ASA hardware. Examine firewall solutions including network access control, IP routing, AAA, application inspection, virtual firewalls, transparent (Layer 2) firewalls, failover and redundancy, and QoS. Evaluate Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) solutions including IPS integration and Adaptive Inspection and Prevention Security Services Module (AIP-SSM) configuration. Deploy VPN solutions including site-to-site IPsec VPNs, remote-access VPNs, and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). Learn to manage firewall, IPS, and VPN solutions with Adaptive Security Device Manager (ASDM). Achieving maximum network security is a challenge for most organizations. Cisco® ASA, a new unified security device that combines firewall, network antivirus, intrusion prevention, and virtual private network (VPN) capabilities, provides proactive threat defense that stops attacks before they spread through the network. This new family of adaptive security appliances also controls network activity and application traffic and delivers flexible VPN connectivity. The result is a powerful multifunction network security device that provides the security breadth and depth for protecting your entire network, while reducing the high deployment and operations costs and complexities associated with managing multiple point products. Cisco ASA: All-in-One Firewall, IPS, and VPN Adaptive Security Appliance is a practitioner’s guide to planning, deploying, and troubleshooting a comprehensive security plan with Cisco ASA. The book provides valuable insight and deployment examples and demonstrates how adaptive identification and mitigation services on Cisco ASA provide a sophisticated security solution for both large and small network environments. The book contains many useful sample configurations, proven design scenarios, and discussions of bugs that help you understand how to get the most out of Cisco ASA in your own network. Jayshree Ullal, Sr. Vice President, Security Technologies Group, Cisco Systems® have found this book really highlights the practical aspects needed for building real-world security. It offers the insider’s guidance needed to plan, implement, configure, and troubleshoot the Cisco ASA in customer environments and demonstrates the potential and power of Self-Defending Networks.

Book Information

Paperback: 840 pages
Cisco ASA: All-in-One Firewall, IPS, and VPN Adaptive Security Appliance (Paperback) by Omar Santos, Jazib Frahim ISBN: 1587052091

Lately there is a fashion to say that now the network layer has been secured and so application security rules and that is what we need to worry about. Nothing can be further from the truth, imagine if a VPN implementation is not working as desired is it possible to still have a secure application layer, I think not. That is why they are called layers as they work in perfect harmony with each other. The book on Cisco ASA provides a very good understanding of the Adaptive behaviour of the next generation of Cisco products which do the work of detection, prevention and combatting network threats. The book explains in a very lucid way to implement and configure a complex device which handles the work of a virus scanner, content filter, firewall and VPN. Through various configuration examples and designs the book explains the complex task of troubleshooting and that itself is worth the price of the book. The tips on how to use the various debug commands to fine tune the device are invaluable and a must for any one attempting to tame this beast. The coauthor Jazib Frahim, CCIE is a senior network security engineer in the Worldwide Security Services Practice of Advanced Services for Network Security at Cisco. The coauthor Omar Santos is a senior network security engineer in the Worldwide Security Services Practice of Advanced Services for Network Security at Cisco.

I give this book 5 stars on a scale of 5, 5 being the highest. I strongly recommend this book.

Niloufer Tamboly, CISSP

Excellent reference book. I wouldn’t want to curl up with a cup of hot cocoa and read it from beginning to end, but it was an essential tool in a recent firewall migration at my workplace. It also seems to be just about the only book about the relatively new ASA platform.
Dear all,

I am totally satisfied with the contents of the book. Needless to say that fulfilled my expectations for an in-depth analysis of the security aspects on Cisco ASA Systems. Thodoris, Athens, Hellas

This book has been very helpful for me. The only issue that I ran into was that the VPN section was a little outdated.

I bought this book 2 weeks back for an ASA project that my company is going to deploy. I am really amused to see that each chapter starts off with an in-depth architectural overview of the features to be discussed. It then provides full step-by-step configuration examples with lots of deployment scenarios. It even covers many troubleshooting and monitoring examples that helped me a lot when I started deploying it in my lab network. This book is a must have if you are to use Cisco ASA in your network. I strongly recommend this Book and give 5 stars on the scale of 5.

I was surprised to see that Cisco was able to publish a book about ASA configuration/implementation. The authors had done a good job in explaining how the commands work and what kind of configurations can be used to implement IPS/VPN solutions. The book really helps to understand what kind of implementation can be done by the ASA. If you were to use ASA for your company, I would suggest to buy this book and go through the information provided. Its an excellent guide and well written by the authors.

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