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Design of an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and an Intrusion

Prevention System (IPS) for the EIU Cybersecurity Laboratory

(TITLE)

BY

Adekunle Adeyemo

THESIS

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

Masters Degree In Science M.Sc.

IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL, EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

2016 YEAR

I HEREBY RECOMMEND THAT THIS THESIS BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE GRADUATE DEGREE CITED ABOVE

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Abstract

Cyber Security will always be a subject of discussion for a long time to come. Research has shown that there is massive growth of cyber-crime and the currently available number of Cyber Security experts to counter this is limited. Although there are multiple resources discussing Cyber Security, but access to training in practical applications is limited. As an institution, Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is set to start Masters of Science in Cyber Security in Fall 2017. Then the challenge is how EIU will expose students to the practical reality of Cyber Security where they can learn different detection, prevention and incidence analysis techniques of cyber-attacks. In addition, students should have the opportunity to learn cyber-attacks legally. This research proposes a solution for these needs by focusing on the design of firewall architecture with an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) for the EIU Cyber Security Laboratory. This thesis explores different up to date techniques and methods for detection and prevention of cyber-attacks. The overall outcome of this research is to design a public testing site that invites hackers to attack for the purpose of detection, prevention and security incidence analysis. This public firewall might empower students and instructors with practical cyber-attacks, detection techniques, prevention techniques, and forensics analysis tools. It may also provide the knowledge required for further research in the field of Cyber Security.

Dedication

I dedicate this thesis to God Almighty for His love for me and to the entire members of my family for their unfailing love, sacrifices, prayers, and support.

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CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

The increasing nature of cyber-attacks is very worrisome and poses a major threat to both economic and social development. Between the year 2008 and 2013, the number of cyber threats increased from 2.37 million to 5.2 million. Also, there is an increase of over 100,000 new malicious programs daily from the 200,000 daily reported in 2012[1]. As reported by Net Losses: [2], cyber-attacks will continue to grow as more businesses go online and as we gravitate towards "Internet of Things". In addition, cyber-attacks have equally grown to become more sophisticated in nature.

The sophisticated nature of cyber-attacks on computer networks these days has rendered traditional firewalls inefficient; even the most complex ones are insufficient in protecting attacks from penetrating computer networks [3]. As a result, there is a need for better and more effective solutions for detecting and preventing attacks. The subject of Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS) and Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS) has drawn the attention of both the academic and corporate world. An IDS is mainly a defensive mechanism that gives alerts, and log the information when it detects an attack or any malicious activity in a passive system, while in a reactive mode, the IDS can log off the malicious user or issue a command for the firewall to reconfigure itself to block such traffic from malicious user [4].

However, taking a step further, a more proactive approach is needed which not only detect but can also prevent the attacks from invading the computer networks. Such a device is referred as an IPS, and according to Conklin and White [5], "IPSs are merely

expansions of existing IDS capabilities". They argued that a true IPS must be able to block, reject or redirect traffic in real time. An IDS that monitors a single host system is a Host Intrusion detection Systems (HIDS) while IDS that monitors an entire network is a Network Intrusion Detection Systems (NIDS) [42]. In this research, IDS is conceptualized as an NIDS.

The detection, sensor monitoring, and alert mechanism techniques of an IDS help also the IPS to discover new patterns of attack or malicious behavior. The IDS evolution allows both the IPS and IDS to share what they have learned with other connected networks or systems, thus increasing its effectiveness against attacks [6][7]. They also prevent malicious activities from bringing damage to the network [8]. Hence, the deployment of modern IDS and IPS in a network offers an advantage of dual intrusion detection and prevention. The IPS/IDS combination provides the best security architecture for an indepth defense [9].

Some literatures refer to the combination of IDS and IPS as Intrusion Detection and Prevention System (IDPS). Korčák et al [10] research on IDS/IPS for a WIFI networks environment shows that there was about 95% decrease in the number of attacks compared to a network without the deployment of their proposed IDPS solution. Therefore, it may be concluded that the security been provided by an IDS/IPS security system could be a discouraging factor for some hackers to launch attacks, and most hackers would rather launch attacks against most vulnerable networks.

1.1 Justification of the Study

Kelvin G. Coleman [11] reported that Casteel the manager of SCADA and security

business development at Emerson Process Management said: "we would never be able to completely get ahead of cyber criminals perpetuating cyber-attacks". If hackers would not rest, then it is very reasonable that researchers continue to research, design and implement security techniques to equip people on combating security attacks. Also according to McGettrick [12], the continuing expansion of technology invariably leads to continuing growth of cyber-attacks, which also calls for the need for more skilled people to combat this menace. The available pool of people with strong cyber security skill sets is quite low, thereby resulting in difficulties as private sectors and government agencies such as United States Department of National Defense and Department of Homeland Security jostle to engage competent individuals to fight cyber-crime [12].

Educational institutions, especially the universities, should be the ones providing leadership when it comes to combatting cyber-attacks. In designing Cyber Security curriculum, both theoretical and practical knowledge are essential to produce individuals that are able to understand the nitty gritty of cyber-attacks and how they should be prevented, hence, able to sufficiently get above the hackers game but quite often, the academic environment separates these two from another [12]. In the area of fighting cyber-attacks, theories are good as they provide the basic underlying principles; however, these are usually not sufficient for employment. Providing laboratory training would further reinforce and expose students to several technologies used by most organizations [13].

It is possible that many industries have been disappointed with the practical experience of students graduating in this field, hence, the reason they demand extra qualifications in the name of certifications during employment process [14]. In addition, according to the

Change the Equation (CTEq), a methodology that aims at improving the quality of STEM program in the United States, there are shortages of STEM talent. The reason is that fewer people are pursuing degrees in the areas of Cyber Security, computer science and IT related courses, and these degrees rarely encompass recent Cyber Security contents [14][15].

1.2 Overall aim

This study will propose a solution for the new Master of Science program in Cyber Security at EIU: To provide students with practical cyber-attacks detection, prevention and incidence analyzes experience and skills that will bridge the gap between academic education and practical training.

1.3 Objectives

- 1. To design a firewall architecture with an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Intrusion Prevent System (IPS) for the Cyber Security Laboratory at EIU.
- 2. To use the developed firewall architecture as a public testing site by inviting hackers to attack the system in other to analyze hacking activities.
- To provide the prospective MSc Cyber Security students at EIU the practical realities of cyber-attacks, threats analysis, detections and preventions in other to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical training.

1.4 Hypotheses

The intent of this research is to ascertain the following:

It is possible to:

- Develop firewall architecture with an IDS/IPS that would offer a high resiliency
 to cyber-attacks within the academic setting of the EIU telecommunication's
 laboratory.
- Provide students with real cyber-attacks experiences in order to empower them to research and to improve Cyber Security systems based on the EIU Cyber Security laboratory experience.
- Operate a physical Cyber Security laboratory with intrusion detection and
 intrusion prevention capabilities that attract prospective students to the MSc.
 program and in turn give EIU recognition among schools offering Cyber Security
 programs.

1.5 Delimitation

This research would strictly provide a firewall architecture design with an IDS/IPS for the purpose of intrusion detection, prevention and security incidence analysis, and would not discuss the speed or the full implementation of the designed system. The implementation of a honeypot is out of the scope of this research work. In addition, this research will not focus on detecting or preventing internal attacks. This research design would serve as a public testing site that invites outside hackers to launch attacks. It is possible that hackers launch sophisticated attacks that can break the security of designed system. However, it is also very possible that we catch/log all the activities that these hackers did to break the system, which is ultimately one of the goals of this research

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Literature Review

This chapter provides background information and a theoretical justification for the firewall architecture with an IDS/IPS for the MSc. Cyber Security at EIU.

2.1 Cyber Security and its Challenges

Fisher [16] defines Cyber Security as a way of protecting and securing information and communication technology systems. The advent of information communication technology and its growth has continuously raised concern for data privacy protection, authorized information sharing and data integrity [16]. According to Baylon [17], the cyberspace users have tremendously increased and this has incidentally resulted in its continuous expansion, which has had a consequential reduction in the cost of Internet access. Baylon [17] argued further that cyber criminals have taken advantage of this growth to create cheap software which basically requires no technical know-how for whoever, to be able to launch cyber-attacks. Based on these arguments, one can conclude that cyber-attacks might not be on the decline anytime soon. In addition, the heavy dependent on technology and the Internet for the continuous sustenance of businesses, government, and individual needs has opened up new vulnerabilities and opportunities for hackers to further their criminal acts [18].

The growing nature of the electronic world is characterized by different networks and interconnected devices, the need to store and interact with a huge amount of data especially via an online platform and the cloud has resulted into the complex nature of the computer networks [18]. As a result of this complexity characterized by physical,

logical and social layers, managing Cyber Security has been difficult as vulnerabilities are not easily detected, and attackers are able to exploit these vulnerabilities to launch attacks in an invisible manner [19][20]. In recent times, the Internet of Things (IoT) has been one of the major subjects in the IT world. With the reality of IoT, we can expect more complexity, as more devices would be interconnected. Folk et al [20] put the number of these devices at over 50 billion, and with this comes unimaginable exploits, vulnerabilities, and attacks. In a research conducted by the office of the privacy commissioner of Canada [18], by the year 2017, the total number of operational mobile devices would outnumber the population of the world. This fact supports the above security concerns. According to a research conducted by Check Point software

Technologies Limited, there is a growing security concern with mobile devices [21]. The report shows that there was 63% increase in security risks of Android mobile platform [21].

The Cyber Security war will be difficult to defeat, as even the custodians of the law have found it to be a weapon to achieve illegal gains. This is evident as some states often times engage the services of hackers in order to accomplish evil agendas [22]. It is very alarming to see different countries using sophisticated malware, spear phishing and denial distributed of service against one another [23]. I perceive this as some sort of cyber war or cyber terrorism, which definitely would be deadlier than terrorism. In 2011, the pentagon noted that any act of attack or sabotage arriving from another country is a possible act of war [24]. Miller [25] described this as the militarization of cyber-attacks using highly trained hackers to access critical resources and information. In addition, the organized nature of cyber-crime has made the fight against cyber-crime difficult.

According to a review in 2012, organized hacking constituted 80% of cyber-crime activities [22]. In 2014, a first of its kind, a massive and sophisticated attack was launched against Sony. This level of attack reflects the highly and strategical organizational structure of an organized attack attributed to the Korean government [23][24]. Theophany [24] referred to this nature of attack as information warfare, that is, one that involves countries, government and big corporations in a bit to disrupt national security. Ferrillo [25] pointed to a recent release by FBI stating that China alone accounted for 95% of data breaches coming from foreign countries.

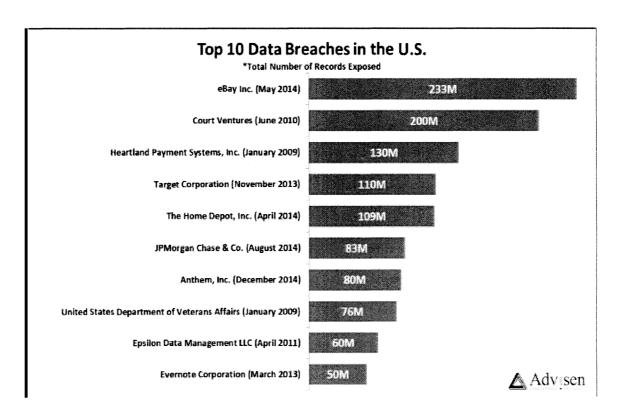


Figure 2.1: Showing the Top 10 Data Breaches in the U.S

Taking a critical look at data and figures resulting from successful cyber-attacks and data breaches, one can easily conclude that fighting cyber-attack would require huge financial budgeting and continuous spending. In Figure 2.1 above, as reported by Ferrillo [25], one

can conclude that big corporations and companies would continually experience attacks. The 2015 information security breaches survey carried out by PWC in conjunction with info security, shows that 90% of large organizations representing about 11% from the previous year's breaches and about 74% of small businesses representing about 23% increase from the previous year's breaches were victims of cyber-attacks [26]. The significance of this is very symbolic, meaning that if these breaches continue at this rate, businesses would continue to incur heavy cost and reputation damages. In 2014 alone, large organizations lost to security breaches summed up to an average range between \$2.05 million to \$4.5 million [26]. In a world development report, Bauer & Dutton reported the global cost implication of cyber-crime to be at \$445 billion [27].

2.2 Major Cyber Attacks

Hackers have developed several mechanisms ranging from simple to sophisticated techniques to perpetuating their criminal acts. In addition, the majority of them, leverage on the loopholes found in some of the hardware and software components of the interconnected network systems. Jun et al [23] noted that the biggest and the most commonly exploited platform for Cyber Security breaches is the point-of-sale (POS). Jun et al [23] also stressed that POS are basically attacked by gaining access to the credit card processing system of a retailer and installing several variants of malware on it, which usually goes unnoticed for a longer period of time. Malware's invisible capabilities make them unsuspicious spies on computer and network resources [28]. This malware does manifest as viruses, worms, spyware, adware, Trojan, and bots. Miller [29] described another form of attack called advanced persistent threats that has been around for long

but have gained more attention due to the consistent changing sophisticated nature of cyber-attacks and the fast changing nature of the threat actors behind these attacks.

In the Fortinet white paper titled "anatomy of botnets", the author identified distributed denial of service, spamming, financial fraud, search engine optimization poisoning, payper-click, cooperate and industrial espionage and bitcoin mining as several techniques hackers deploy in using botnets to generate money [30]. After a successful installation, the working operation of a botnet is such that it creates a backdoor, an avenue it uses to communicate or transfer stolen sensitive information and other details used to identify the infected system to its master [30]. Kamal et al [28] stressed that bots are the greatest threats and risks to users, computers and networks in recent times, because of their highly destructive nature. According to a white paper by McAfee, malware can exhibit polymorphism characteristics when hackers designed them to exist in a different form via regular updates, thereby making it difficult to be detected by signature updates techniques [31].

SQL injection attacks on web applications operated by retail stores are quite popular owing to the sensitive information in their database [25]. Different services like the emails, e-commerce, social media, television media that majorly use these applications to service their teeming clients are the major target of SQL injection attacks. SQL injection attack, if successful, can make an attacker bypass authentication, evade detection, perform data modification and extraction amongst other things, and these explain why they are very popular [32]. It has grown and become one of the key attack mechanisms of hackers, that the Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) rated it number one web application vulnerability in 2013 [33].

Another dreaded attack is the zero day attack. A zero-day attack is an exploitation of vulnerability also referred to as a hole in software [25]. This form of attack is deadly because there is no way to protect or defend against this nature of attack [34]. In 2010, windows operating system, Adobe reader, and Adobe Flash Player were major vulnerable victims of the 14-day zero attack that made the high-profile attack using Stuxnet worm and Hydraq Trojan to be successful [34]. Egelman et al [35] focused on explaining the new security paradigm of zero-day exploits markets and raises an argument for and against this new paradigm shift. They concluded that these markets have gained so much popularity and attention and thus have consequential implications on the software manufacturing companies.

Hedge [36] identified Mac (MAC) spoofing as one of the major causes of denial of service attacks (DoS), man in the middle attack, dynamic name service (DNS) attack and address resolution protocol (ARP) poisoning. Man in the middle attack gives listening functionality to an intruder and allows such an intruder to listen to every communication traversing the network. DoS take advantage of the weaknesses of the IP protocol stack to disrupt the flow of traffic or services in a network [37]. Farraposo [37] categorizes DoS attack into normal DoS attack if attacks originate from a single computer system and distributed denial of service (DDoS) if attacks originate from multiple computer systems. A DNS attack can be launched indirectly or directly, an indirect attack is launched by registering a domain name deliberately for the purpose of stealing victim's identity and redirecting traffic [38], while a direct attack executes against DNS infrastructure using DoS, DDoS, and DNS cache poisoning, the later redirects legitimate traffic to hackers' websites [38]. Gangan [39] mentioned that ARP cache poisoning and session hijacking

are causes of man in the middle attacks. Hackers use different tools such as Cain and able, Ettercap, Dsniff, etc to update an ARP cache table in order to redirect ARP responses to themselves and then be able to extract the necessary information that is needed to further perpetuate crime [39]. Session hijacking attacks an application layer by taking control of the HTTP session to obtain information about session ID and at the network layer of the OSI model by intercepting communication between the client and the server, leveraging on the unawareness and non-security consciousness of users [40].

2.3 Different Techniques to Fight Cyber Attacks

There are several techniques or technologies that are always been deployed by the government, cooperate bodies and individuals in order to fight cyber-attacks and keep their network and resources save. A brief review of some of these technologies is given below.

2.3.1 Firewall Technologies

Tharaka et al [41] pointed out that a firewall does not necessary have the capability to handle or process malicious traffic but a combination of different firewall technologies may prove quite successful. They lamented the limited research activities on the subject of firewall technologies. A firewall filters packets separating the authentic ones from the malicious ones and then blocking the malicious ones. Tharaka et al [41] explore the combination of Network Address Translation (NAT), Virtual Private Network (VPN) and the packet filtering functionality of a firewall to propose a defense against cyber-attacks. NAT allows addresses to translate to another different address entirely. An example, private IP addresses translate to public IP addresses. This concept helps to hide private IP

addresses from the public. It could be a one-to-one NAT or a dynamic NAT, where multiple IP addresses translate to a single IP address. In addition, the VPN is a very good secure point of communication, as it builds a tunnel, as a channel of communication and encrypting the traffic traveling through it using the most common form of encryption protocol like IPsec [42]. The firewall also provides the concept of security zones, where different resources could be placed on different zones based on how important they are, usually, the demilitarized zone (DMZ) houses the public webserver, while the very important company's information are kept in the trusted zone, and the access to the public network is kept in the untrusted zone [42].

Despite the security capability of firewalls, events, antecedents and research have proven that they would not be capable of solving all security issues and they might not be able to stop the new breed of sophisticated attacks. In lieu of this, Chopra [43] proposes the concept of distributed firewall architecture in order to mitigate sophisticated attacks. Chopra's research concluded on the note that distributed firewall techniques would create endpoint protection and at the same time enforce domain security using language and distribution policy control in conjunction with certificates for identity management of the domain members [43]. A report by Rajeswari [44] states that firewalls ability to serve as the first line of defense on a local area network (LAN) against attacks are limited to being able to watch or detect any malicious traffic coming from a Wi-Fi enabled device that is behind the LAN. The reason given for this is that firewalls would usually perform reverse tunneling, a process that allows devices to make outbound connections through a firewall.

have a perfect firewall that is not susceptible to compromise. Although to a large extent, with constant monitoring of the firewall and proper configuration of security policies, firewalls could perform at their best. Firewalls do not perform filtering or check on traffic by default, they follow some sort of security policies configured by a network or systems administrator. Firewalls perform the function of traffic filtering following security policies configured by network administrators, how well these firewalls perform filtering is dependent on how well the security policies are configured [42].

2.3.2 Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS)

The awareness about the difficulty in achieving a perfect security of network resources must have given birth to the idea of detecting network intrusions either before attacks take place or after it has taken place. Patil et al [45] described an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) as a system or mechanism that identifies malicious packets or traffic that are both known and unknown. Conklin et al [42] define an IDS as a system that triggers an alarm when it sees an anomaly. In reality, triggering an alarm might not necessarily be indicative of a threat or attack. The administrator could further tune the IDS to reduce the rate of false alarms. Patil et al [45] in their research were able to show a reduction of about 10.02% in the false alarm rate of an IDS that uses clustering and classification hybrid techniques. Conklin et al [42] described in detail the workings of an IDS, the IDS uses traffic collectors to acquire traffic or packets and send them it to the analysis engine which inspects the traffic to see if there are known patterns of malicious traffic when compared to the traffic signatures that are in its database, and it finally passes the outcome to the user interface and report it appropriately.

In their work, Cepheli et al [46] proposed a hybrid intrusion detection framework to combat distributed denial of service attack (DDoS). They leveraged on both the anomaly and signature detection capability of an IDS to enhance the effectiveness of detection of DDoS attack. Das and Sarkar [47] gave a clear distinction between a firewall and an NIDS as many often regard them to be the same. They stated that firewall basically just stands as a guard that control traffic base on rule sets while NIDS is able to detect what is going on the inside of a network. Although they were quick to also point out that NIDS is not able to scan encrypted network traffic just in the same way a firewall could not as well [46]. Besides being able to identify and detect DDoS, Conklin et al [42] said the NIDS is capable of detecting other attacks such as port scans or sweeps, the presence of malicious content on data payload, Trojans, viruses, worms, tunneling, and brute-force. In another research conducted by Alkasassbeh et al [48], they incorporated different techniques such as multilayer perceptron (MLP), Naïve Bayes and Random Forest to improve the detection capability of an IDS, and they concluded that implementing the MLP delivered 98.63% detection accuracy.

The changing nature of attacks spurs researchers to constantly research techniques that can keep up with this development. Bini et al [49] described such techniques, namely; (i) "Data mining & forensics": an advantage of information in a repository or database to analyze attacks. (ii) "Intelligent agent and mining": intelligently learn new signature to detect attacks, a technique they claim reduces false positive and false negative, (iii) "Genetic algorithm": working is based on heuristic search method and (iv) "Fuzzy logic based alert optimization engine": an alert re-scoring technique that leads to a further reduction in the number alerts. They concluded that combining all of these techniques

would result in more effective IDS. Another key thing to be considered is the placement of an IDS in a network. As shown in Fig 2.2 below, Conklin et al [42] described that placing an IDS before a firewall would make it see every traffic coming through the firewall and as such would report every alarm generated by itself and the firewall, hence overwhelming the administrator of such network with a huge number of alarms.

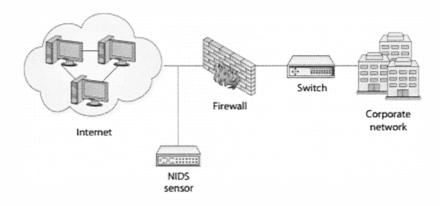


Figure 2.2: NIDS sensor placed before the firewall

Another option is shown in Figure 2.3 below, Conklin et al [42] explained that placing the IDS behind the firewall would reduce the huge alarm effect created in Figure 2.2 because it prevents the IDS from seeing attacks coming directly towards the firewall.

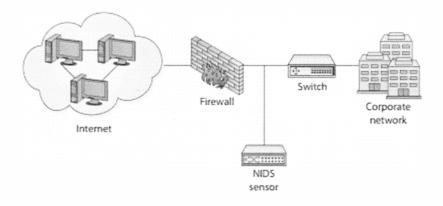


Figure 2.3: NIDS sensor placed behind the firewall

2.3.3 Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)

A modern intrusion prevention system could perform both functions of detecting and preventing malicious traffic as traffic traverses on a network, thereby making it an intrusion detection and prevention systems (IDPS) [47]. The different challenges such as speed, performance, scalability, flexibility and inability to proactively prevent malicious contents led to the development of such modern IPS [47][50]. An IPS is most effective when it can inspect protocols and analyze them. As an example, it might perform HTTP protocol inspection in order to be able to detect and prevent the popular URL encoding evasion technique [42]. Unlike the IDS, the IPS can perform a content inspection on traffic with the TLS protocol encryption, decrypt such traffic and take a decision on whether to allow it or not [42]. According to Korčák [10], an IDPS deployed to mitigate against DoS and ICMP flood attacks proved to be effective as it reduces traffic originating from an attacker by 95%. This shows the potential of an IPS system.

Kaur & Dhingra [51] proposed an algorithm for an IDPS in preventing SQL injection attacks against a database system by checking all database transactions before they are finally committed in order to prevent malicious transactions from being committed. In another research work, Ammad & Laiq [52] proposed a real-time IDPS that uses the Kali Linux operating system, an NIDS, and an IPS that blocks malicious traffic detected by the NIDS. This technique definitely offers a double detection advantage because the IPS also have the capability to detect before it prevents. This is a good way to affirm the integrity and accuracy of the NIDS and IPS that make up their design. Also critical to the success of an IPS is the ability to place an IPS inline in order for all traffic to flow through it and its ability to detect and stop against DoS attacks using rate-based monitoring even while being in the inline operation mode [42]. Intrusion prevention seems to be the way to go in safeguarding network resources. Holland & Shey in their publication forecasted that there would be 5% to 10% increase in intrusion prevention systems [53]. Although they pointed out that this prevention should not be limited to prevention techniques that are only signature based, but also endpoint protection and identity management technology that can identify even a hacker's infrastructure while offering protection.

2.4 The Need for Cybersecurity Knowledge

Despite the constantly developed techniques to combat the menace of cyber-attacks, there seems to be a gap in knowledge or the expertise required to complement these technologies. Most of these technologies still need human Cyber Security experts to configure and monitor these devices for optimal performance. According to a report by the Institute for Information Security & Privacy (IISP), there is a shortage of about one

million information security specialists, and the worrisome thing about this is that the current trend does not guarantee that this problem would receive an immediate solution [54]. The report further stated that by 2020, there would be a shortage of 1.5 million workers with Cyber Security knowledge or expertise [54]. This is very alarming, and it raises a very serious concern. If winning the cyber war is necessary, then sophisticated technology to fight Cyber Security attacks and challenges, must continue to grow, as well as the number of Cyber Security experts. The same report says that there is no extensive class time in Cyber Security topics. Although in a separate report, Baeur & Dutton [27] reported that there has been an effort in some Northern American and Western European science departments to increase cyber learning and yet this is not enough to meet the global need.

The gap in knowledge or the required expertise in the field of Cyber Security forms the basis for this research work. A report by ACM stressed that Cyber Security as a discipline is lacking the necessary skills [55]. In the same report, a recommendation was made that Cyber Security at master's level should receive encouragement to attract prospective students to the field, and encourage professors to take an interest in embarking on Cyber Security projects. There should be aggressive Cyber Security research laboratories all over the world in order to keep up-to-date with current Cyber Security challenges and attacks. In reality, we probably do not need every graduate in technology or computer engineering to become Cyber Security experts, but we do need an appreciable number of graduates with such knowledge. This research aims to design an IDS/IPS system within firewall architecture in order to serve as a learning platform for students enrolling for the masters in Cyber Security program at EIU. This research work would have its webserver

public IP address exposed to the public, and hence, it will be able to receive real attacks from external networks, hence student might learn with real and simulated cyber-attacks rather than only simulated laboratory created attacks.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Design Methodology

This chapter describes details of the methodologies and techniques deployed in order to achieve the objectives of this research.

3.1 The Topology of the Design

Figure 3.1 below depicts the design, which is reflective of a layered security approach characterized by different security devices with the sole aim of creating a strong defense in depth mechanism [42]. Security should be developed with the total awareness of the consequences of a single point of failure. Conklin et al [42] stressed that other security devices that form a whole security architecture could complement the inadequacies of a failed security device. Conklin et al [42] went further to advocate that network security systems or architecture should have the following techniques or methods: routers, firewalls, network segments which can also be referred to as perimeter security, IDSs, encryption, authentication software, physical security and traffic control to achieve layered security. According to Cleghorn [56], defense in depth would deter a casual attacker and a skilled hacker that lacks the continual motivation to perpetuate evil agenda as a result of several obstacles by different layers of security that needed to be overcome, and also prevent the invasion of automated attacks usually run by software programs targeted at public facing webservers.

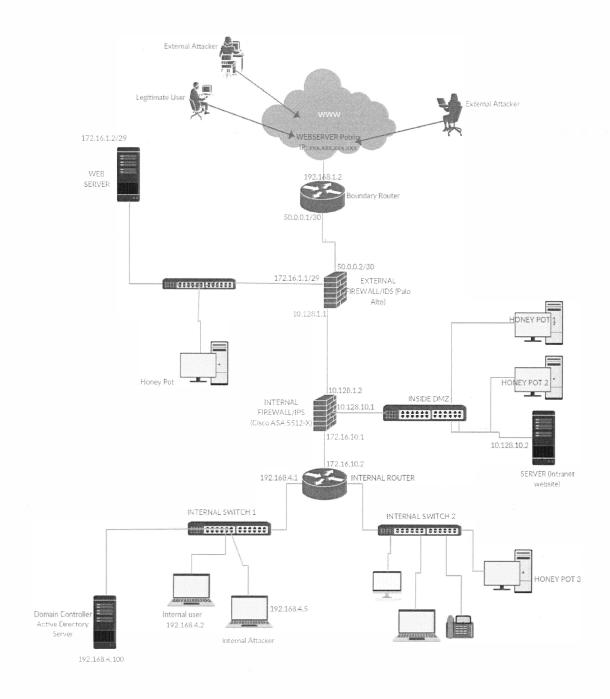


Figure 3.1: IDS/IPS design topology for EIU Cyber Security Laboratory

3.2 The Router

In this research work, the Cisco router 1941W is used. The Cisco 1941W has the capacity to deliver secured data and great mobility. It comes with two integrated 10/100/1000

Ethernet ports. In this topology, the cisco router provides the following functions:

3.2.1 The Cisco Router as a Boundary Router

The final essence of this research is to connect the developed design to an external network or to Internet in order for traffic to flow to and fro the external networks. In order to fulfill this, a router is needed to process and route traffic into the designed network, and also to process and direct traffic to the outside when originated by an inside user. As shown in Figure 3.1 above, the Gigabit Ethernet interface 0/0 (G0/0) connects to an ISP that provides Internet service for the designed topology. This interface plugs into a Cisco Bridge that connects wirelessly to a Verizon wireless hotspot for the purpose of Internet access. The Interface on the router is configured as a dynamic host configuration protocol client, which allows the router to automatically receive an IP address from the Verizon wireless through the Cisco Bridge connected to it.

A network device would need a public IP address in order for it to be able to communicate with Internet. This means that Gigabit Ethernet interface 0/0 (G0/0) of the router needs a public IP address, but in this case, the Verizon hotspot assigned a private IP address to it in the range 192.168.1.0 subnet and through the process of network address translation (NAT), translates the private IP address to a public static IP address. NAT translate private IP addresses (non-routable) into public (routable) IP addresses and in doing that, it shields external network or external users from knowing the private IP addresses, thereby providing a form of security [42]. The NAT technique used by Verizon is referred to as port address translation (PAT) as it basically translates all the addresses in the 192.168.1.0 network into a single public IP address that would be used by any of the private IP addresses to get on the Internet. On the same router, the Gigabit

Ethernet interface 0/1(G0/1) is configured with a private IP address in the range 50.0.0.0/30 network. This interface connects directly to the Firewall/IDS.

3.2.2 Port Forwarding to the Webserver

The architecture of this design is such that a webserver is on the external DMZ of the network and would have a separate private IP address that is not known by the external users but has a public IP address representation. Users from the outside wanting to interact with this webserver would do so by sending traffic to the public webserver IP address. In order for the traffic sent to the webserver public address to hit the webserver on the inside of the network, the traffic would have to be in a format that the webserver would understand. Security is at the heart of the design hence, the webserver would only respond to a request or traffic coming from an IP address in its subnet range. In order for the traffic originating from the outside or Internet to communicate with the webserver, the following would have to take place:

- Internet traffic destined for the webserver will first go to the webserver's public
 IP address.
- 2. Then this traffic forwards to the router's G0/0 interface. This is possible with the concept of port forwarding, directing Internet originating traffic to G0/0. In Figure 3.2 the Verizon Jetpack hotspot forwards traffic from Internet through port 80 to the IP address 192.168.1.2, which is the IP address on G0/0 of the router's interface.

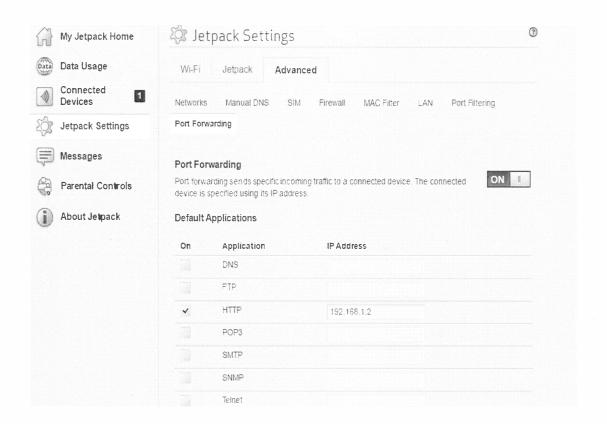


Figure 3.2: Port Forwarding Configuration

Since the purpose of this design is to allow students experience different real cyberattacks, Figure 3.3 shows how to allow traffic via a different range of ports.



Figure 3.3: Showing configuration to open many ports

3.2.3 NAT Configuration and Filtering on the Boundary Router

The Gigabit Ethernet interface 0/1 (G0/1) of the router is configured with the IP address in the subnet 50.0.0.0/30. The G0/1 directly connects to the firewall/IDS. In order for traffic directed to the G0/0 interface of the router to go into the webserver, the following configuration is required on the router:

- Network address translation is configured on the router for both interface G0/0 and G0/1 of the router to direct traffic in and out respectively. The IP address
 192.168.1.2 on the G0/0 translates into the IP address 50.0.0.2 of the firewall/IDS that connects directly to the router.
- 2. The NAT inside command is configured on the G0/1 interface of the router while the NAT outside command is configured on the G0/0 interface of the router.

3.2.4 Access List Configuration to Prevent IP Spoofing

An attacker can pretend to be part of an internal network by trying to use an inside private IP address to communicate with internal users and resources. In order to prevent this, an access list is configured on the router to filter traffic and deny any traffic originating from non-routable IP addresses. Abderrahim [57] in his research termed this technique as network ingress filtering. Examples of IP addresses to be blocked are 10.0.0/8,172.16.0.0/12,192.168.0.0/16,127.0.0.0/8,169.254.0.0/16,224.0.0.0/4 [58]. All of these non-routable addresses are blocked by access list configuration on the router.

3.3 The Firewall/IDS

The Firewall/IDS in the design is a Palo Alto PA-200 device. The PA-200 has the capability to perform the function of both traffic filtering and an IDS. It has the ability to

filter URL and block malicious websites. In addition, it comes with antivirus functionality that detects viruses and spyware. In order for this PA-200 to fulfill its purpose in this research work, the following configurations were set on it:

3.3.1 Zones and Interfaces configuration

There are three different zones configured on the Palo Alto. The security needs of the firewall/IDS design led to the creation of the three zones. The Ethernet interface 0/1 (E0/1) was configured as the untrusted zone because it connects to the boundary router, the Ethernet interface 0/3 (E0/3) as the DMZ zone and the Ethernet interface 0/2 (E0/2) as the trusted zone. The idea behind this network segmentation is to separate the webserver and place it on a DMZ to ensure that no traffic from Internet crosses that zone to the trusted zone. Figure 3.4 shows zone configuration while Figure 3.5 & Figure 3.6 show interface configuration. E0/3 is configured with an IP address in the subnet 172.16.0.0/24, the E0/2 is configured with an IP address in the subnet 10.128.10.0/24 and E0/1 is configured with an IP address in the subnet 50.0.0/30. The following steps show how to configure both zones and interfaces:

- 1. On the Palo Alto administration interface, click on the Network tab
- 2. Click on the zone on the left side panel
- 3. Click the add button to create a zone

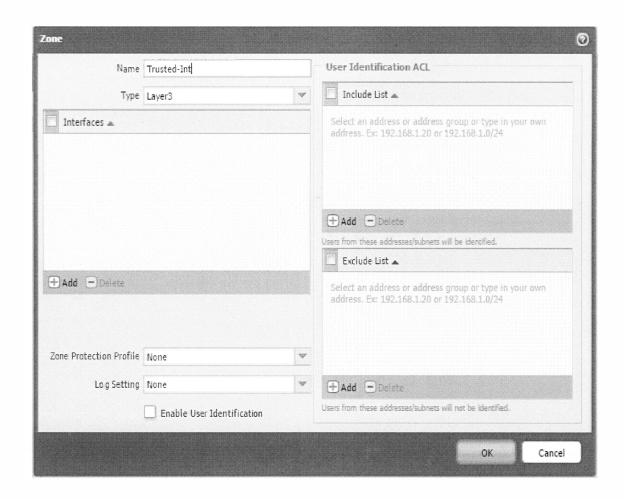


Figure 3.4: Shows zone creation

- 4. Give it a name, then select type as layer3, then click ok
- 5. Then click on interfaces right above zones on the left side panel
- 6. Click on the interface to be configured
- 7. Select the specific security zone you want this interface to be associated with

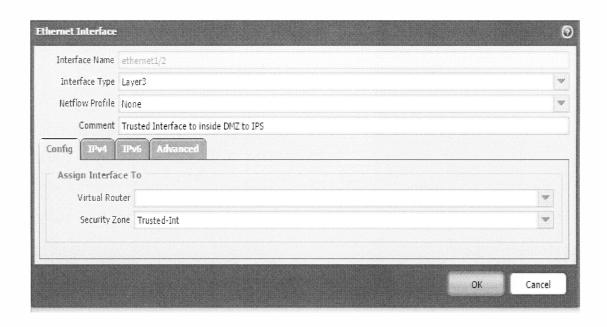


Figure 3.5: Showing interface configuration

- 8. Click on IPv4
- 9. Click on add to configure the IP address for this interface



Figure 3.6: Showing IP address configuration on the interface

10. Then click ok

Repeat the steps above to create the other two zones and interfaces.

3.3.2 Virtual Router Configuration

The IDS needs to understand how to route traffic that is coming from both DMZ and from trusted zone to untrusted zone. The virtual router implements three static routes:

- The first route routes traffic to any destination on the Internet using the router's G0/1 interface IP address as the default gateway
- The second, routes traffic to the 172.16.10.0 network that is in between the IPS and the internal router by using the IPS outside interface G0/1 IP address as the default gateway)
- And the third one routes traffic to the 192.168.4.0 network using the IPS outside interface G0/1 IP address as the default gateway.

Figure 3.7 below shows the first route configuration. The Virtual router configuration steps are shown below:

- 1. Click on virtual routers
- 2. Click on add and give it any name you want it called as shown below



Figure 3.7: Showing virtual router configuration

- 3. Click on static routes
- 4. Name your static route and enter the static route details as shown below
- 5. Then click ok

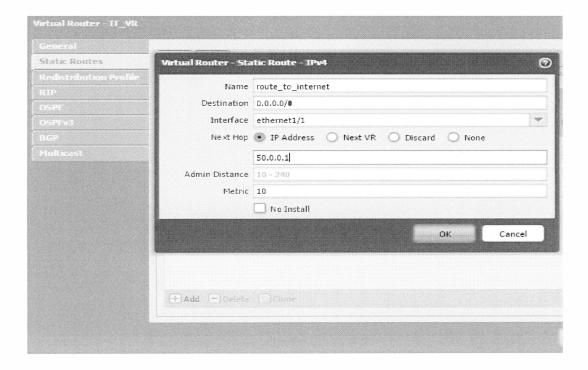


Figure 3.8: Shows how to set static route on a virtual router

Repeat all the steps above to create the other two static routes

The virtual router created has to be attached to the interfaces created. Click on the interfaces tab to select the virtual router created as shown in Figure 3.9

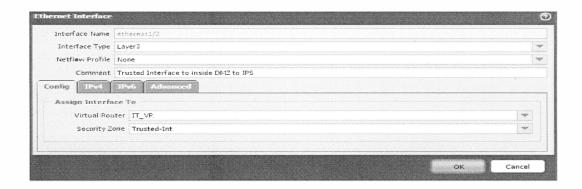


Figure 3.9: Shows how to attach an interface to a virtual router

3.3.3 NAT Configuration

A bidirectional NAT is configured to translate the webserver IP address 172.168.1.2 to the IP address 50.0.0.2 on the untrusted zone of the IDS when traffic is originating or returning from the webserver, and also to translate 50.0.0.2 to 172.16.1.2 when traffic is destined to the webserver. The implication of this is that traffic directed towards the IP address 50.0.0.2 will translate to the 172.168.1.2 IP address. This is the point at which Internet traffic destined for the webserver that is port-forwarded to 192.168.1.2, and then changed to 50.0.0.2, will translate to 172.168.1.2. In addition, the NAT is configured to translate the IP address on the trusted zone to the untrusted zone so that traffic coming from the inside network outbound the trusted zone can find their path to either the webserver or the Internet depending on the traffic destination.

3.3.4 Firewall Security Policies

In this research, several security policies were configured to allow or deny traffic flowing from one zone to the other. The rules are shown below:

- 1. Allow traffic flow from the trusted zone to the untrusted zones
- 2. Deny traffic from the untrusted zone to the trusted zone
- 3. Allow traffic flow from the Internet inbound interface G0/0 of the router to the untrusted zone and then to the webserver via the DMZ. The policy is named UnT-DMZ
- 4. Allow traffic from the DMZ to the untrusted zone
- 5. Allow traffic flow from trusted to trusted zones
- 6. Allow traffic flow from the trusted zone to DMZ

The essence of the security rules above is to deny unwanted traffic from one zone to the other and to allow legitimate traffic from one zone to the other.

The steps below show the creation of the third policy UnT-DMZ

- 1. Click on the policy tab
- 2. Click on the add button to create a policy
- 3. Under the general tab, name the policy
- 4. Click on the source, then click on the add to button under zone to add the source zone as untrusted
- 5. Click on user tab to add user, but this has been set to any in this configuration
- Click on destination, then click on the add button under the destination zone as
 DMZ

- 7. Click on the application tab to specify an application, it has been configured to "any" in this configuration
- 8. Click on service/URL category, check any button under category
- 9. Click on the action tab and choose allow
- 10. Then click ok.

Following all the steps above created all the rules as shown in Figure 3. 10 below



Figure 3.10: Shows the configured security policies

The steps above describe a policy that controls inbound traffic on the untrusted zone from the Internet entering the DMZ to access the webserver.

3.3.5 Profile Configuration

Profile configuration is where the IDS configuration is set to detect vulnerabilities, spyware, and viruses. In order for this configuration to be effective, the profile configuration has to be attached to a particular security rule. The profile created in this research is assigned to the UnT-DMZ security policy rule to monitor any traffic going through the untrusted zone in order to detect malicious traffic or vulnerabilities. Figure 3.11 below shows the profile configuration.

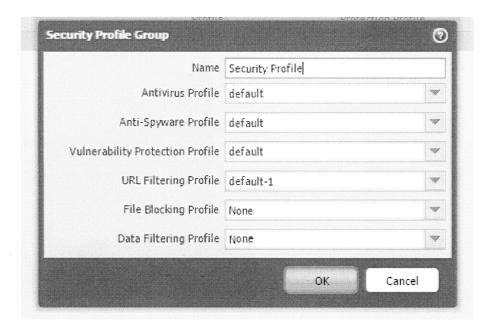


Figure 3.11: Showing profile configuration

3.3.6 DoS Protection

The IDS also is configured to mitigate denial of service attack. The detailed configuration is shown in Figure 3.12. The steps below show the configuration

- 1. Click on the objects tab
- 2. Click on DoS protection
- 3. Click on add
- 4. Give the DoS protection profile a name
- 5. Check the aggregate button
- Under flood protection, check all of the buttons under SYN flood, UDP flood,
 ICMP flood and other IP flood tabs
- 7. Click on resource protection tab, and check the session button
- 8. Then click ok

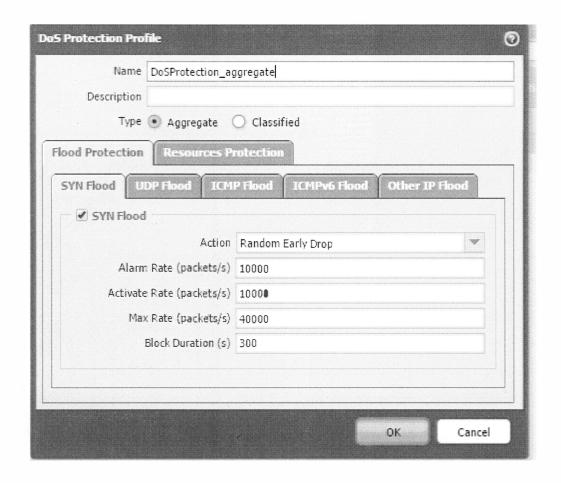


Figure 3.12: Showing DoS protection configuration

3.3.7 URL Filtering

URL filtering configured on the IDS blocks traffic from going to some websites that contain security risks. In addition, it helps to control the way users inside the network consumes network bandwidth. Websites like games websites are high bandwidth consumers and surfing these websites might make service unavailable to other users due to their high bandwidth usage. In addition, URL filtering would also prevent users from visiting websites with viruses and thus prevent ignorant virus downloads. The URL filtering configuration below blocks the games URL category.

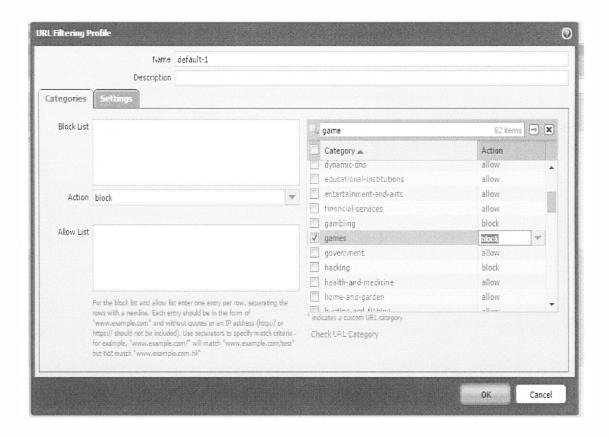


Figure 3.13: Showing URL filtering

Steps to configure URL filtering to block games URL category

- 1. Click on objects
- 2. Click on URL filtering
- 3. Click on add
- 4. Give it a name
- 5. Select block under action
- 6. Select game under URL category and then select block action
- 7. Then click ok

3.4 Webserver Configuration

The webserver used in this design is a windows server 2012 R2. The robustness and high speed of the Windows Server 2012 R2 make it a good fit for this purpose. The system hosting this Windows Server is a core i7 Intel processor, with 8GB RAM and 1TB hard disk size machine. This system hosts the public webserver with the IP address 172.16.1.2 255.255.255.0. The content of this server loads whenever a request comes to the public webserver IP address. The web application (Damn Vulnerable Web Application) needed for the testing of the designed system runs well on Kali Linus Operating System. In order to achieve this, the Windows Server is virtualized using the Hyper-V functionality tool that comes with Windows Server 2012 R2, and Kali Linus operating system was installed on the virtualized server.

3.5 Firewall/IPS

The Firewall/IPS is a Cisco 5512-x device. This Cisco 5512-x device has an IPS sensor that comes with over 6000 signatures in its database. The IPS is capable of full network participation for global protection. Global protection is a service that allows the IPS to synchronize with the cloud in order to compare traffic signatures not just against its own database but also against signatures in the cloud. The advantage of this is that Cisco collects information about attacks that are detected on any of their IPSs and send it to the cloud in order for other IPSs to be aware of these threats. The IPS is configured in an inline mode in order to see through every traffic are that traversing the network. Configuration instructions are set on the IPS to allow traffic flow from the inside of the network and block traffic from coming in from the outside.

3.5.1 Interface Configuration of the Firewall/IPS

Three interfaces are configured on the firewall/IPS in order to segment traffic flow. The interface that connects directly to the IDS is E0/0 and has been configured as outside with security level of 0, this implies that whatever traffic coming from this interface should not be trusted. The interface E0/1 is configured as a DMZ with security level 50. The DMZ here host an intranet webserver and two honeypots. This aspect is outside the scope of this research but is included in the topology to make it obvious as a future recommendation. The intranet webserver is meant to be a decoy if peradventure an attacker is able to bypass the IDS and get to the IPS, the idea is to direct the attacker into this webserver to make the attacker feel he is already on the inside network. While the attacker does his/her hacking, the honeypots records and captures the details of the attacker's activities. E0/2 is configured with the security level of 100 since it is the interface that connects to the internal router.

3.5.2 Firewall Security Policies

Similar to policies on the IDS, policies are set on the IPS too in order to allow or deny traffic. The IPS has the following policies configuration:

- 1. Allow traffic from the inside network to go out to the Internet
- 2. Allow traffic from the DMZ to go out to the Internet
- 3. Deny traffic from the DMZ from going to the inside network
- 4. Deny traffic from the outside from going to the inside

Any other traffic that does not match the allow policies would be denied. The detailed configuration of this configuration is shown in the CLI commands in appendix B.

3.5.3 EIGRP Routing

EIGRP routing is configured on the firewall in order for it to advertise the networks on its interfaces. This is to enable communication between the firewall and the internal router.

The good thing about this is that EIGRP protocol is not configured on the IDS and as such it does not get any advertisement or routing updates from the firewall/IPS.

3.5.4 IPS Sensor Configuration

Configuration for the IPS sensor could be through either the command line interface or the Cisco ASDM graphical user interface. The IPS sensor in the design is configured using the ASDM graphical user interface. Configuration details for the IPS sensor are on the appendix E page. As earlier mentioned, the IPS has over 6000 signatures that it uses to detect and prevent different attacks. In addition, it does anomaly detection as well. In this work, about 1000 signatures are enabled for testing.

3.6 Internal Router

The internal router is also a Cisco 1941W router just like the external router. The internal router serves as the gateway between the internal users and the outside network. In the design, a 24-port Cisco 1900 switch connects to the G0/0 of the internal router. The internal webserver hosting different resources and applications connects to a port on the switch. The internal router has EIGRP enabled on it to advertise its route. In addition, a static route is set on it to allow the internal network reach every network segment. The detailed configuration of the internal is on the appendix B page.

3.7 Internal Webserver

It provides the following functions:

The internal webserver is also a virtualized version of windows server 2012 R2 just like the public webserver while the physical machine itself serves the purpose of a host. The Hyper-V functionality tool helps to achieve this as well. On this internal webserver, an active directory was setup, so also a domain controller, users in the inside network were added to the domain. This is to enable proper monitoring of internal users for auditing purpose. The idea behind this is to be able to identify who is accessing what resources on the network.

3.8 Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) and Agentless User-ID LDAP on the IDS synchronizes with the Active Directory Server in the internal network.

- 1. It allows any authorized user within the domain to authenticate into the IDS in other to manage it. This means that an administrator does not need to give out his/her password to anyone.
- 2. The LDAP enables the IDS to perform user identity mapping by configuring agentless identity mapping. The LDAP records users IP addresses as well as their profile, which include their name and the domain they belong to when they generate traffic on the network. This offers an advantage in the event of incidence analysis if an inside user has been collaborating with an external attacker. Figure 3.14 below shows how LDAP configuration is accomplished

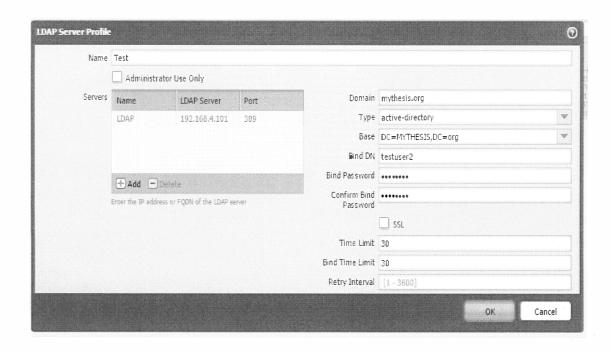


Figure 3.14: Shows LDAP configuration

The steps to configure LDAP is shown below

- 1. Click on device tab
- 2. Under server profile in the left plane, click on LDAP
- 3. Click on add to add LDAP
- 4. Under servers click on add
- 5. Enter the IP address of the active directory server and use 389 for port number
- Enter the domain name for your active directory and it will automatically populate the Base field
- 7. Enter your domain username and password
- 8. Then click ok

Steps to Configure Agentless User-ID

The Agentless User-ID is configured to monitor user session information from the active directory server. Steps to configure agentless user-id is shown below

Create service account in active directory. Add a user in the active directory to
the Distributed COM users, Server Operators, and Event Log Readers Groups.
Right click on the user as shown in Figure 3.15 below, select properties, then
click member of, and use the add button to add the user to the groups
mentioned above

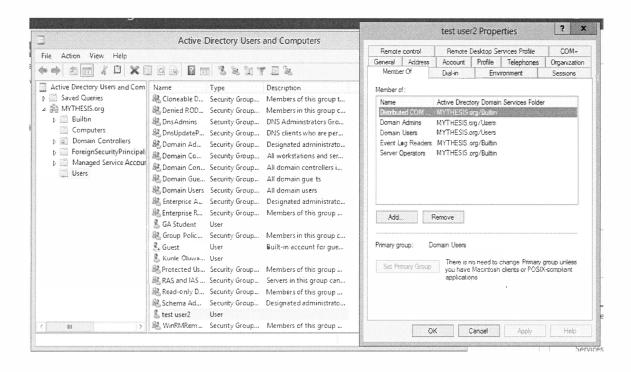


Figure 3.15: Shows how to add users to service accounts

The IDS uses WMI authentication and the user has to modify the security settings on CIMV2 security properties on the active directory server. Open the WMI by running

wmimgmt.msc on windows command prompt, then right click on WMI control as shown in Figure. 3.16 below and then select properties.

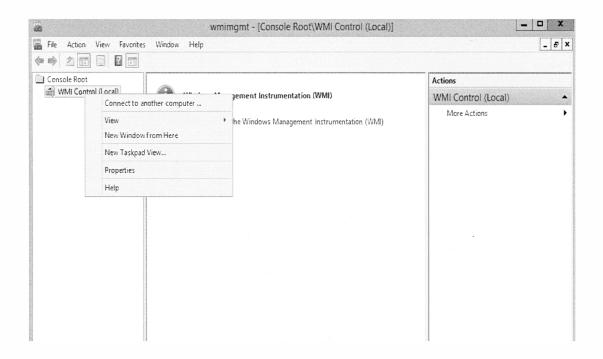


Figure 3.16: Shows WMI configuration

Then select the security tab and click on the root to expand it. Select the folder CIMV2, click the security tab and add the service account from step 1, and ensure you click enable account and remote enable as shown in Figure 3.17 below

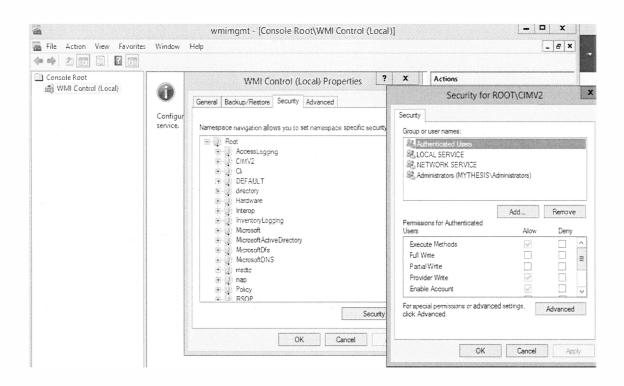


Figure 3.17: Shows how to add CIMV2 security to service account

2. Go to the IDS (Palo Alto) and click on the device tab, then select user mapping as shown in Figure 3.18 below, and then click the add button to enter a name for the server and enter the IP address for the active directory server.

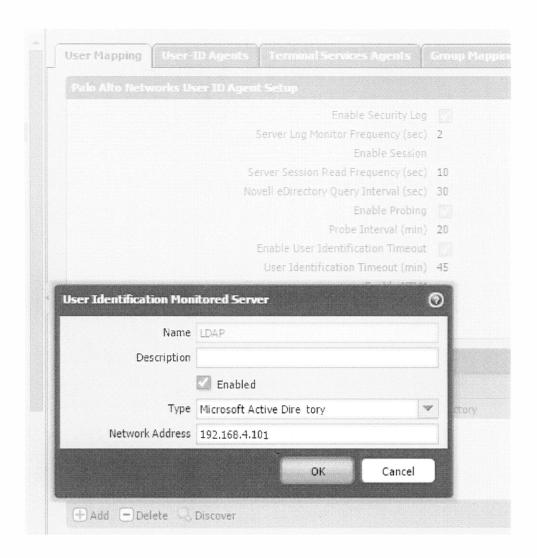


Figure 3.18: Shows user-mapping configuration

If the above configuration is correct, you will see the server connected as shown below in Figure 3.19.

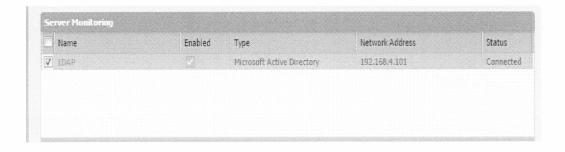


Figure 3.19: Shows successful connection of active directory to LDAP

3. Then attach this user mapping to the trusted zone on the IDS as shown in Figure 3.20 below. Click on network tab, then click on the zone and select the zone as shown below, and check the button "enable user identification". Then click ok. Doing this will always capture every internal user that sends traffic out through the trusted zone.

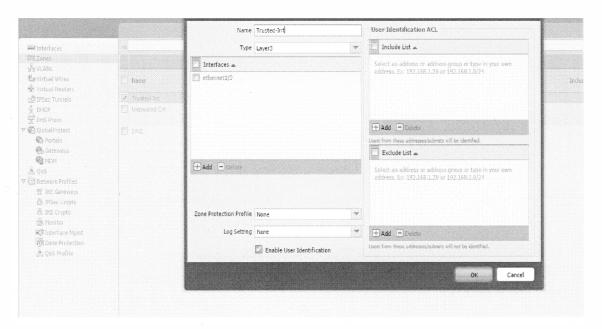


Figure 3.20: Shows enable user identification

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Results and Discussion, Conclusion & Recommendation

This research has accomplished the design for the IDS/IPS laboratory for the MSc Cyber Security program at EIU. The design was tested and worked as expected. All of the various network segments were able to communicate with themselves as expected. The laboratory design has its own network connection to the Verizon ISP, thereby isolating it from constituting a risk to the EIU network or any other public network. The internal users in the laboratory design are able to access the Internet with their own private IP addresses.

4.1 Results and Discussion

A major breakthrough of this design is that it was able to go online so it can serve the purpose of a public testing platform where hackers can launch different forms of attacks. This is very significant and it is a milestone. Students would have the privilege of working with real cyber-attacks and laboratory simulated attacks rather than only laboratory simulated attacks.

Figure 4.1 below shows an internal user with the IP address 192.168.4.100 pinging www.google.com. This is a proof that the internal users can access the external network.

```
CH.
                                             Command Prompt
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix ...

Description ... : Intel(R) Ether.

Physical Address ... : EC-F4-BB-44-23-7F

DHCP Enabled ... : No
Autoconfiguration Enabled ... : Yes

IPv4 Address ... : 192.168.4.100(Preferred)

Subnet Mask ... : 255.255.255.0

Subnet Mask ... : 8.8.8.8

8.8.4.4
Ethernet adapter Ethernet:
                                                    Intel(R) Ethernet Connection I218-LM EC-F4-BB-44-23-7F
Ethernet adapter UMware Network Adapter UMnet1:
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
    Description . . . . . . . . . : UMware Virtual Ethernet Adapter for UMnet
    Physical Address. . . . . . . : 00-50-56-C0-00-01
                                                 : No
: Yes
: 192.168.253.1(Preferred)
: 255.255.255.0
    Ethernet adapter UMware Network Adapter UMnet8:
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
    Description . . . . . . . . . : UMware Virtual Ethernet Adapter for UMnet
    : No
: Yes
: 192.168.40.1(Preferred)
: 255.255.255.0
    IPu4 Address. . . . . . . . . . . . .
    C:\Users\GA Student>ping google.com
Pinging google.com [216.58.192.142] with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 216.58.192.142: bytes=32 time=67ms TTL=47
Reply from 216.58.192.142: bytes=32 time=110ms TTL=47
Reply from 216.58.192.142: bytes=32 time=361ms TTL=47
Reply from 216.58.192.142: bytes=32 time=245ms TTL=47
Ping statistics for 216.58.192.142:
Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
Minimum = 67ms, Maximum = 361ms, Average = 195ms
C:\Users\GA Student>
```

Figure 4.1: Shows an internal user sending ping packets to google

However, users are restricted from accessing certain websites by configuring URL filtering. Figure 4.2 shows a user blocked when he/she tries to visit a questionable website.

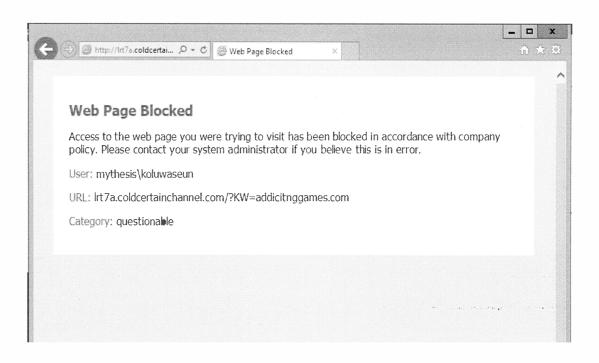


Figure 4.2: showing an internal user blocked from accessing forbidden website

An interesting part of this is that the agentless user-id mapping functionality would map such a user's ID and domain to that traffic so that appropriate actions is taken against such a user. Figure. 4.3 show how the IDS capture the details of the internal user trying to access a questionable website.

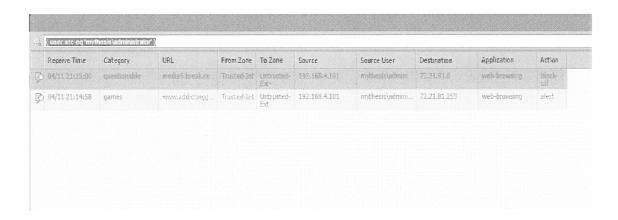


Figure 4.3: Showing details of an internal user captured by the IDS

This is very significant in conducting incidence analysis in the event of a break in. The administrator can see which user originates what traffic and what website or IP addresses the internal user is sending traffic to. The ACC tab presents a better view of this visibility. The administrator is able to see what users are doing, what applications are consuming network bandwidth, and what threats are traversing the network, etc. Figure 4.4 shows how the ACC represents activities on the IDS.

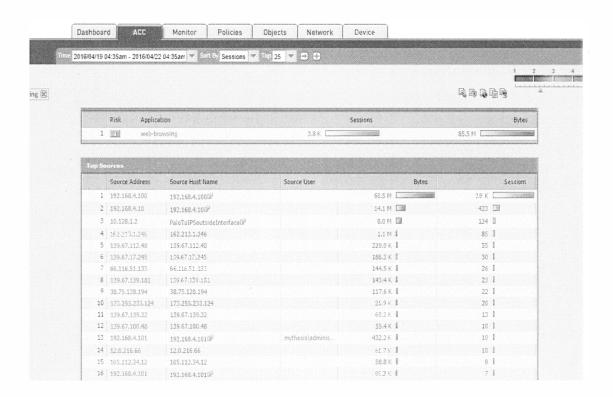


Figure 4.4: Shows ACC tab with web browsing activities details

In addition, the internal users are able to access the public webserver, which is resident on the DMZ segment of the IDS. This offers good security because the internal users do not need to go outside of the network or use the public IP address of the public webserver. The Figure 4.5 below shows a user accessing the public webserver using the private IP address of the webserver

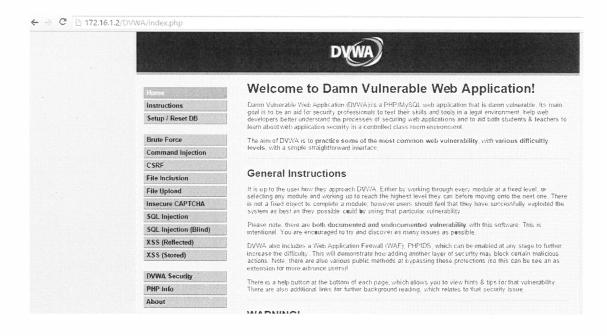


Figure 4.5: Internal access to webserver using the webserver's private IP address

In order to test the functionality of the IDS/IPS developed, a vulnerable web application is hosted on the webserver. The result shows that SQL injection attacks were launched against the webserver frequently, and this was detected by the IDS as shown in Figure 4.6 below. In Figure 4.6 below, it can be observed that the victim's IP address isn't shown as the webserver IP address but rather as the IP of the untrusted zone on the IDS. This is a very good security feature because the webserver is being protected.

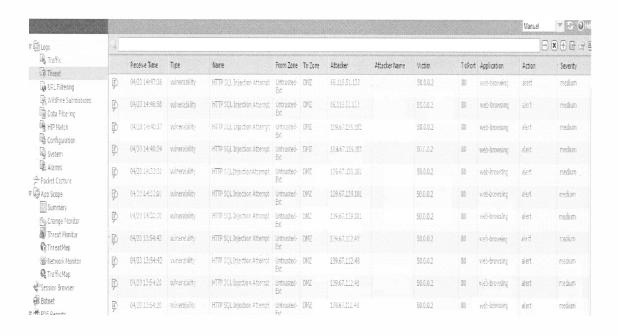


Figure 4.6: Shows IDS capturing SQL Injection attacks

In another instance as shown in Figure. 4.7 below, the IDS detected a spyware JBoss. Worm Command and Control. According to Amazon Web Service, the JBoss. Worm Command and Control is a worm that runs on an infected host that scans other network and connects to unprotected JMX console in order to execute some codes on the victim [59]. The IDS identified this attack as critical and performed reset-both actions on it. An action that resets the connection if it is TCP based and drop the connection if it is UDP based. Because of this, a configuration is set on the IDS to block any such malicious traffic.

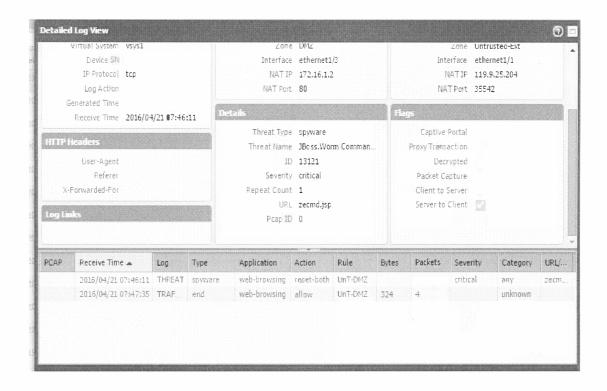


Figure 4.7: Shows a detected spyware

The IDS/IPS design proved to be secure because there is no traffic able to breakthrough from Internet into the IPS, which directly connects behind the IDS. However, the IPS monitors all traffic leaving the internal network and prevents any suspicious response to traffic initiated from the inside. Figure. 4.8 shows a closed UDP session from an IP address 94.245.121.254 going to 10.128.10.2, which is a webserver on the DMZ interface of the IPS.

1	6	Apr 20 2016	21:07:32	302015 192.168.4.10	55704	8.8.8.8	53	Built outbound UDP connection
i	6	Apr 20 2016	21:07:29	302016 8.8.4.4	53	192.168.4.10	64152	Teardown UDP connection 146
ĭ	6	Apr 20 2016	21:07:29	302016 8.8.8.8	53	192, 168, 4, 10	64152	Teardown UDP connection 146
i.	6	Apr 20 2016	21:07:26	302016 94.245.121.254	3544	10.128.10.2	53117	Teardown UDP connection 146
1	6	Apr 20 2016	21:07:26	302014 10,128,1,1	39059	192, 168, 4, 101	135	Teardown TCP connection 146t

Figure 4.8: Shows a closed UDP session

4.2 Conclusion

The main purpose of this research is to research and propose an initial solution for the new Master of Science program in Cyber Security at EIU. This research fulfills this purpose. In addition, the research also fulfills all the set objectives set at the beginning. The design developed would afford student to learn real cyber-attacks detection and prevention techniques to complement Cyber Security theoretical knowledge. In addition, the public testing site would also allow students to learn both within and outside of the classroom. Furthermore, the public testing site would invite hackers and it is expected that new and sophisticated attacks might be detected and student can carry out further research on these attacks.

4.3 Recommendation

This design is subjected to the man in the middle attack by using IP spoofing techniques to poison the router's interface that connects to the internal switch. The result shows that the design could not stop this form of attack. Figure 4.9 below shows how an attacker was able to sniff FTP login details.

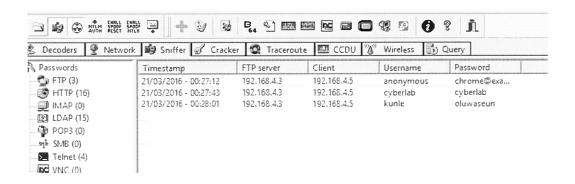


Figure 4.9: Showing internal attacker capturing FTP credentials

Because of this, the recommendation for further research is to improve this design to detect and prevent internal attacks. In addition, a honeypot should be implemented on both the external DMZ and the internal network in order to have a repository that store attackers' activities for the purpose of thorough incidence analysis. Furthermore, subsequent research can focus on creating a VPN access for remote site users needing to communicate with the internal network from the outside over a public network.

In summary, it is my recommendation that the Firewall laboratory set up with IPS/IDS can be enhanced with additional research activities like:

- The design of an internal watchdog (IDS/IPS) to protect internal users or intruders from penetrating the systems in spite of the current protections.
- VPN access to at least the DMZ and Internal Zones to study the risk involved in this kind of activities as many companies allow some authorized employees to access internal servers.
- To launch a systematic attack (internal auditing) on the system by our own people to explore all the avenues or possible holes we have not identified yet.
- The hardening of the Windows servers to protect them if an intruder is able to reach them.
- The hardening of the switches to protect from internal attackers.
- Further research/implementation is necessary to ensure a well-protected log system that allows us to keep the records of the hacker's activities (in successful attacks) without allowing the hacker to delete the records.

- Access to the laboratory facilities also should be monitored (logins to the machines with additional security i.e biometrics) to ensure only authorized users can change our configurations.
- In the academic area, develop laboratory guidelines to set up and monitor
 - o The Palo Alto Firewall (IDS)
 - o The Cisco Firewall box (IPS)
 - o The Windows servers
 - The Architecture as a whole (replication of the system with laboratory guidelines)

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Appendices

Appendix A: Definition of terms

Appendix B: Configuration for firewall/IPS

Appendix C: Configuration for Boundary Router

Appendix D: Configuration for Internal Router

Appendix E: Configuration for IPS Sensor

Appendix F: Photo of Firewall Architecture with IDS/IPS

Appendix A

Definition of Terms

Firewall: is a network device-hardware, software, or a combination thereof- whose purpose is to enforce a security policy across its connections by allowing or denying traffic to pass into or out of the network

Intrusion detection Systems (IDS): is a security system that detects inappropriate or malicious activity on a computer or network.

Intrusion Prevention System (IPS): An intrusion prevention system monitors network traffic for malicious or unwanted behavior and can block, reject, or redirect that traffic in real time.

Demilitarized Zone (DMZ): A DMZ sometimes referred to as a perimeter network is a physical or logical subnetwork that contains and exposes an organization's external-facing services to a larger and untrusted network, usually the Internet.

Router: A router is a device that forwards data packets along networks

ARP poisoning: is a type of attack in which a malicious actor sends falsified ARP (Address resolution Protocol) messages over a local area network.

Virtual Private Network (VPN): A VPN is a technology that creates an encrypted connection over a less secure network.

Internet of Things (IoT): IoT refers to the ever-growing network of physical objects that feature an IP address for Internet connectivity, and the communication that occurs between these objects and other Internet-enabled devices and systems.

Network Intrusion Detection Systems (NIDS): NIDS focuses on network traffic-the bits and bytes travelling along cables and wires that interconnect the systems.

Active Directory: Active Directory is a database that keeps track of all the user accounts and passwords in your organization. It allows you to store your user accounts and passwords in one protected location, improving your organization's security.

Domain Controller: a domain controller (DC) is a server that responds to security authentication requests (logging in, checking permissions, etc.) within a domain.

Virtualization: Virtualization refers to the act of creating a virtual (rather than actual) version of something, including virtual computer hardware platforms, operating systems, storage devices, and computer network resources.

WMI: Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) is a set of specifications from Microsoft for consolidating the management of devices and applications in a network from Windows computing systems. WMI is installed on all computers with Windows operating systems.

CIMV2: CIMV2 is the default WMI namespace on Windows machines.

Spamming: This is the use of electronic messaging systems to send unsolicited message (spam), especially advertising, as well as sending messages repeatedly on the same site. Bitcoin Mining: This is the process of transactions in the digital currency system, in which the records of current Bitcoin transactions, known as blocks, are added to the record of the past transactions, known as the block chain.

Industrial Espionage: Spying directed toward discovering the secrets of a rival manufacturer or other industrial company

Appendix B

Configuration for firewall/IPS

```
IPS# sh run
: Saved
ASA Version 9.1(2)
hostname IPS
enable password E.bgA9kfttKB/.vi encrypted
names
interface GigabitEthernet0/0
shutdown
no nameif
security-level 0
no ip address
interface GigabitEthernet0/1
nameif outside
security-level 0
ip address 10.128.1.2 255.255.255.0
interface GigabitEthernet0/2
nameif DMZ
security-level 50
ip address 10.128.10.1 255.255.255.0
interface GigabitEthernet0/3
nameif inside
security-level 100
ip address 172.16.10.1 255.255.255.0
interface GigabitEthernet0/4
shutdown
no nameif
no security-level
no ip address
interface GigabitEthernet0/5
shutdown
```

```
no nameif
no security-level
no ip address
interface Management0/0
speed 100
management-only
nameif management
security-level 100
ip address 192.168.1.1 255.255.255.0
ftp mode passive
clock timezone GMT 0
same-security-traffic permit inter-interface
object network DMZ outside
subnet 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0
object network web-server-from-outside-thru-palo
host 10.128.10.2
object network web-server-fromInside
host 10.128.10.2
object network IntrnalRouterNetwork
subnet 192.168.100.0 255.255.255.0
object network inside-network
subnet 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
object network 10.128.1.1
host 10.128.1.1
object network 172.16.10.2
host 172.16.10.2
object network 10.128.1.0
subnet 10.128.1.0 255.255.255.0
object network 10.128.1.2
host 10.128.1.2
object network Nat inIPSrouterToOutside
subnet 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
object network IntASA
subnet 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0
object network officeLanToInside
subnet 192.168.4.0 255.255.255.0
object network office Lan
subnet 192.168.4.0 255.255.255.0
object network Inside going Outside
subnet 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
description Inside traffic should go out
```

```
object network Inside goingTO InsideDMZ
subnet 172.160.10.0 255.255.255.0
description Inside traffic going to DMZ
object network Outside DMZ
subnet 176.16.1.0 255.255.255.0
description The outside DMZ network
object network Inside Going Outside
subnet 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
description network address btw ASA and internal Router
object network Inside Going outside
subnet 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
object network Network Behind Internal Router
subnet 192.168.4.0 255.255.255.0
description Network Behind Internal Router
object network Nat Inside To DMZ
subnet 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
access-list inside access in extended permit ip any any
access-list OutsideThruPaloToDMZ extended permit ip any host 10.128.10.2
access-list OutsideThruPaloToDMZ extended permit ip object 10.128.1.1 object
172.16.10.2
access-list inside access out extended permit icmp 10.128.10.0 255.255.255.0 object
Network Behind Internal Router echo-reply
access-list inside access out extended permit ip any any
access-list inside access in 1 extended permit ip 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0 any
access-list inside access in 1 extended permit ip object
Network Behind Internal Router any
access-list ALLOW_OUT IN extended permit icmp any any
access-list ALLOW OUT IN echo extended permit icmp any any echo-reply
access-list ALLOW OUT IN echo extended permit ip object 10.128.1.1 any
access-list DMZ access in extended permit ip 10.128.10.0 255.255.255.0 any
access-list DMZ ALLOW echo Reply extended permit icmp 10.128.10.0 255.255.255.0
172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0 echo-reply log
access-list DMZ access in 1 extended permit ip any any
access-list DMZ access in 2 extended permit icmp 10.128.10.0 255.255.255.0
172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0 echo-reply
access-list DMZ access in 2 extended permit icmp 10.128.10.0 255.255.255.0 object
Network Behind Internal Router echo-reply
access-list DMZ access in 2 extended deny ip any object
Network Behind Internal Router
access-list DMZ access in 2 extended deny ip any 172.16.10.0 255.255.255.0
access-list DMZ access in 2 extended permit ip any any
pager lines 24
logging enable
```

```
logging asdm informational
mtu outside 1500
mtu DMZ 1500
mtu inside 1500
mtu management 1500
icmp unreachable rate-limit 1 burst-size 1
no asdm history enable
arp timeout 14400
no arp permit-nonconnected
object network DMZ outside
nat (DMZ,outside) dynamic interface
object network web-server-from-outside-thru-palo
nat (DMZ,outside) static interface
access-group ALLOW OUT IN echo in interface outside
access-group DMZ access in 2 in interface DMZ
access-group inside access in 1 in interface inside
access-group inside access out out interface inside
router eigrp 1000
no auto-summary
network 10.0.0.0 255.0.0.0
network 172.16.0.0 255.255.0.0
route outside 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 10.128.1.1 1
timeout xlate 3:00:00
timeout pat-xlate 0:00:30
timeout conn 1:00:00 half-closed 0:10:00 udp 0:02:00 icmp 0:00:02
timeout sunrpc 0:10:00 h323 0:05:00 h225 1:00:00 mgcp 0:05:00 mgcp-pat 0:05:00
timeout sip 0:30:00 sip media 0:02:00 sip-invite 0:03:00 sip-disconnect 0:02:00
timeout sip-provisional-media 0:02:00 uauth 0:05:00 absolute
timeout tcp-proxy-reassembly 0:01:00
timeout floating-conn 0:00:00
dynamic-access-policy-record DfltAccessPolicy
user-identity default-domain LOCAL
http server enable
http 192.168.1.0 255.255.255.0 management
no snmp-server location
no snmp-server contact
snmp-server enable traps snmp authentication linkup linkdown coldstart warmstart
crypto ipsec security-association pmtu-aging infinite
crypto ca trustpool policy
telnet timeout 5
```

```
ssh timeout 5
ssh key-exchange group dh-group1-sha1
console timeout 0
dhcpd address 192.168.1.2-192.168.1.254 management
dhcpd enable management
threat-detection basic-threat
threat-detection scanning-threat
threat-detection statistics
threat-detection statistics tep-intercept rate-interval 30 burst-rate 400 average-rate 200
ssl encryption aes128-sha1 3des-sha1
class-map inspection default
match default-inspection-traffic
1
1
policy-map type inspect dns preset dns map
parameters
 message-length maximum client auto
 message-length maximum 512
policy-map global policy
class inspection default
 inspect dns preset dns map
 inspect ftp
 inspect h323 h225
 inspect h323 ras
 inspect rsh
 inspect rtsp
 inspect esmtp
 inspect sqlnet
 inspect skinny
 inspect sunrpc
 inspect xdmcp
 inspect sip
 inspect netbios
 inspect tftp
 inspect ip-options
 inspect icmp
 inspect icmp error
class class-default
 ips inline fail-open
 user-statistics accounting
1
```

service-policy global_policy global prompt hostname context no call-home reporting anonymous Cryptochecksum:060d16daale6364b4b88ace962b9c94e : end

Appendix C

Boundary Router Configuration

```
Current configuration: 2022 bytes
! Last configuration change at 03:18:50 UTC Mon Apr 18 2016
version 15.1
service timestamps debug datetime msec
service timestamps log datetime msec
no service password-encryption
hostname Router
boot-start-marker
boot-end-marker
no aaa new-model
service-module wlan-ap 0 bootimage autonomous
no ipv6 cef
ip source-route
ip cef
multilink bundle-name authenticated
crypto pki token default removal timeout 0
license udi pid CISCO1941W-A/K9 sn FTX152583HY
hw-module ism 0
Redundancy
!
!
interface GigabitEthernet0/0
ip address dhcp
ip nat outside
```

```
ip virtual-reassembly in
duplex auto
speed auto
interface wlan-ap0
description Service module interface to manage the embedded AP
no ip address
arp timeout 0
no mop enabled
no mop sysid
interface GigabitEthernet0/1
ip address 50.0.0.1 255.255.255.252
ip nat inside
ip virtual-reassembly in
duplex auto
speed auto
interface Wlan-GigabitEthernet0/0
description Internal switch interface connecting to the embedded AP
interface Serial0/0/0
no ip address
shutdown
no fair-queue
clock rate 2000000
interface Serial0/0/1
ip address 192.168.240.2 255.255.255.252
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/0
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/1
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/2
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/3
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/4
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/5
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/6
interface GigabitEthernet0/1/7
```

```
interface Vlan1
no ip address
ip forward-protocol nd
no ip http server
no ip http secure-server
ip nat inside source list 101 interface GigabitEthernet0/0 overload
ip nat inside source static tcp 50.0.0.2 80 192.168.1.2 80 extendable
access-list 101 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended ingress-antispoof
deny ip 10.0.0.0 0.255.255.255 any
deny ip 172.16.0.0 0.15.255.255 any
deny ip 192.168.0.0 0.0.255.255 any
deny ip 127.0.0.0 0.255.255.255 any
deny ip 224.0.0.0 31.255.255.255 any
deny ip 169.254.0.0 0.0.255.255 any
control-plane
line con 0
line aux 0
line 67
no activation-character
no exec
transport preferred none
transport input all
transport output pad telnet rlogin lapb-ta mop udptn v120 ssh
line vty 0 4
login
transport input all
scheduler allocate 20000 1000
end
```

Appendix D

Internal Router Configuration

```
Current configuration: 2494 bytes
! Last configuration change at 04:34:50 UTC Sat Apr 9 2016
version 15.2
service timestamps debug datetime msec
service timestamps log datetime msec
no service password-encryption
hostname InternalRouter
boot-start-marker
boot-end-marker
1
no logging console
enable secret 5 $1$P17h$Tw9icjdxSyPtslSX3fU531
no aaa new-model
service-module wlan-ap 0 bootimage autonomous
ip cef
ip domain name mythesis.org
no ipv6 cef
multilink bundle-name authenticated
!
license udi pid CISCO1941W-A/K9 sn FTX18228352
hw-module ism 0
!
1
```

```
username cisco secret 5 $1$CW.o$G6yNKhr9Da84rpYnj/HQd0
ip ssh version 2
1
interface Embedded-Service-Engine0/0
no ip address
shutdown
interface GigabitEthernet0/0
ip address 192.168.4.1 255.255.255.0
duplex auto
speed auto
interface wlan-ap0
description Service module interface to manage the embedded AP
no ip address
arp timeout 0
no mop enabled
no mop sysid
interface GigabitEthernet0/1
ip address 172.16.10.2 255.255.255.0
duplex auto
speed auto
interface Wlan-GigabitEthernet0/0
description Internal switch interface connecting to the embedded AP
no ip address
interface Serial0/0/0
ip address 192.168.240.13 255.255.255.252
clock rate 2000000
interface Serial0/0/1
ip address 192.168.240.10 255.255.255.252
!
interface Vlan1
no ip address
```

```
!
!
router eigrp 100
network 192.168.240.0
!
!
router eigrp 1000
timers active-time 30
metric maximum-hops 50
network 172.16.0.0
network 192.168.4.0
ip forward-protocol nd
no ip http server
no ip http secure-server
ip route 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 172.16.10.1
ip route 10.128.1.0 255.255.255.0 172.16.10.1
ip route 10.128.10.0 255.255.255.0 172.16.10.1
ip route 50.0.0.0 255.255.255.252 172.16.10.1
ip route 172.16.1.0 255.255.255.0 172.16.10.1
control-plane
line con 0
password cisco
login
line aux 0
line 2
no activation-character
no exec
transport preferred none
transport output pad telnet rlogin lapb-ta mop udptn v120 ssh
stopbits 1
line 67
no activation-character
no exec
transport preferred none
```

```
transport input all
transport output pad telnet rlogin lapb-ta mop udptn v120 ssh
line vty 0 4
password cisco
login local
transport input all
!
scheduler allocate 20000 1000
!
end
```

Appendix E

Configuration for IPS Sensor

The following are the steps to configure the IPS sensor

1. Click on IPS and then click on startup wizard

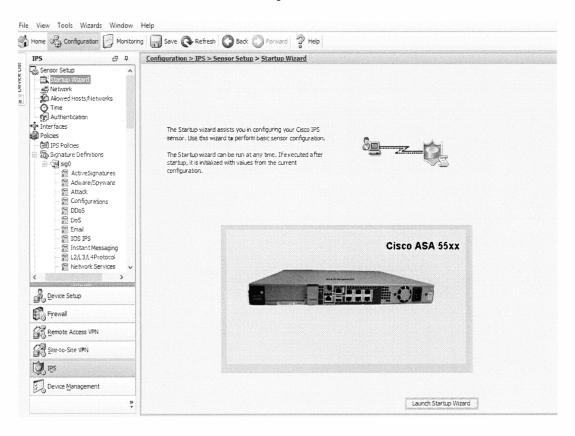


Figure E-1: Showing the startup wizard

2. Click on launch startup wizard

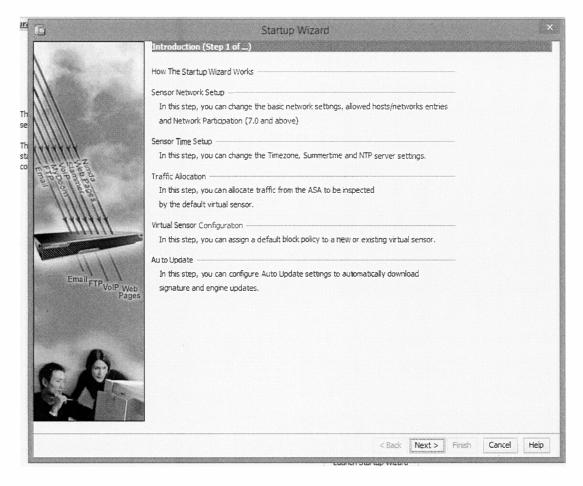


Figure E-2: Showing configuration information

3. Click next, enter the name for the IPS sensor, IP address in the same subnet range with the Cisco ASA (firewall) management interface because the IPS sensor shares same management interface with it. The default gateway will be the management interface IP address



Figure E-3: Showing host name and IP address configuration

4. Click next to enter date and time information. You should leave the NTP server information blank except you have an NTP server

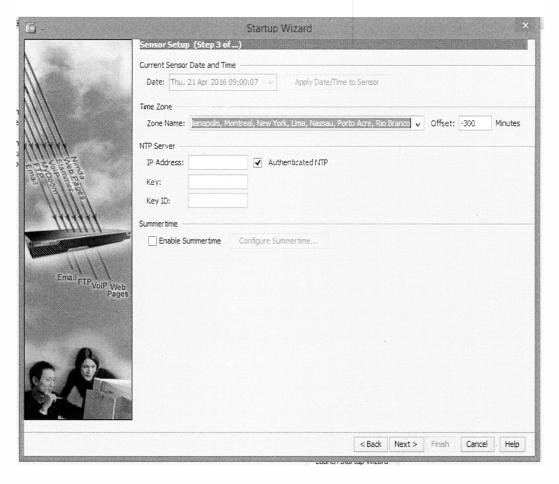


Figure E-4: Showing the how to set date, time and enter NTP server information

5. Click next to see the default IPS policy that blocks HIGHRISK traffic.

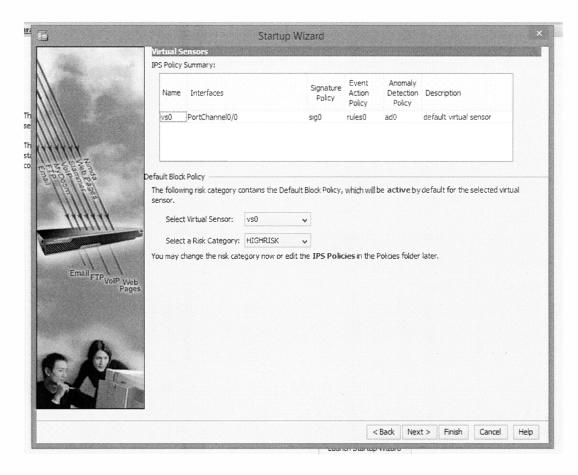


Figure E-5: Showing the IPS virtual sensor policy

6. Click next, to configure the IPS sensor to be in inline mode. As shown in the figure below, the rule is set to see traffic from any source going to any destination. You can add more rules here to apply to whatever direction of traffic.

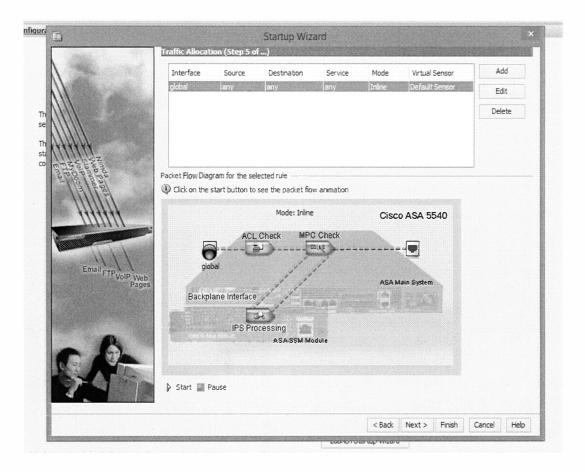


Figure E-6: Showing the traffic allocation

7. Click next, and then check the enable signature and engine updates from cisco.com. You can create an account on cisco.com. Then enter the account login information as shown below. In addition, you will enter the time when you want the daily updates run. It is very important to enter the appropriate information. Then click next, it will prompt that you commit the saves, click ok. Then click finish.

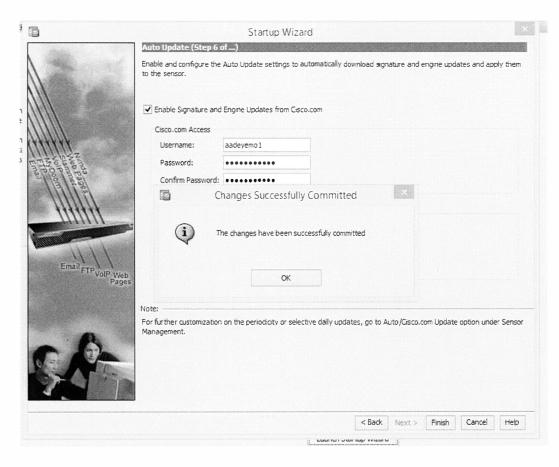


Figure E-7: Configuration to enable signature and engine updates from cisco.com

Appendix F

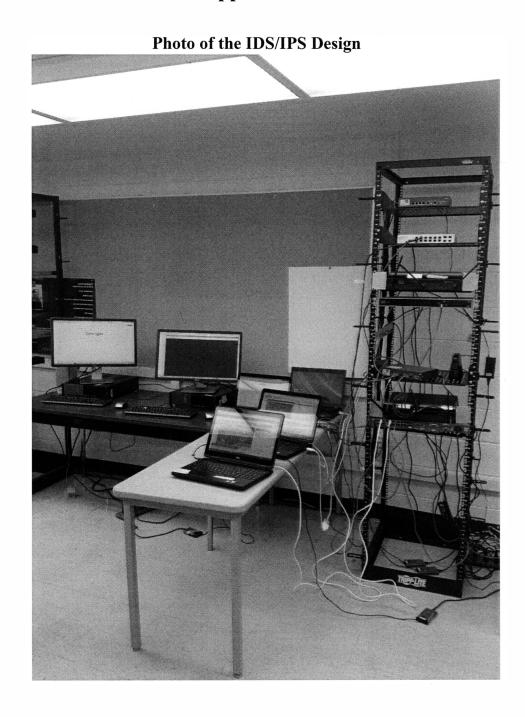


Figure E-8: Photo of Firewall Architecture with IDS/IPS