SAFIRE

Enterprise Firewall Performance Tester

OVERVIEW

Enterprise firewalls improve network security by segmenting corporate LANs. However, each of the advanced security functions (e.g. antivirus, app-control, IPS and SSL decryption) has a performance penalty. Combined, these features can seriously reduce network performance (in some instance up to 90%) – frustrating users and reducing business performance.

Safire is the only solution on the market that solves this problem quickly and cost-effectively.

Simply connect Safire to your firewall, define a traffic profile that matches your network, and a Firewall Under Test (FUT) you want to measure. Initiate the test and in minutes Safire will compile a PDF report characterizing the firewall performance, with easy-to-understand graphs that clearly pinpoint the firewall's breaking point and a wealth of other data.

Testing firewall performance prior to deployment:
- Comparing different enterprise firewalls prior to purchasing
- Validating performance prior to installation

It can also pay to test firewall performance after it has been deployed:
- Checking performance after firewall software updates and patches
- Verifying performance following significant LAN traffic changes
- Measuring performance impact of emerging applications
- Measuring performance impact of firewall policy configuration changes

KEY FEATURES

- Automated firewall performance characterization
- Automated traffic profile generation from traffic monitoring logs
- Application emulation for NGFW performance, SSL decryption, and NAT
- Unencrypted and encrypted malware test
- Firewall resource utilization monitoring during performance test
- Smart comparison and analysis of test reports for various use cases
- Easy-to-use web UI with multi-user login support
- Easy-to-understand PDF report facilitating decision making

XENA™

Test. Improve. Repeat.
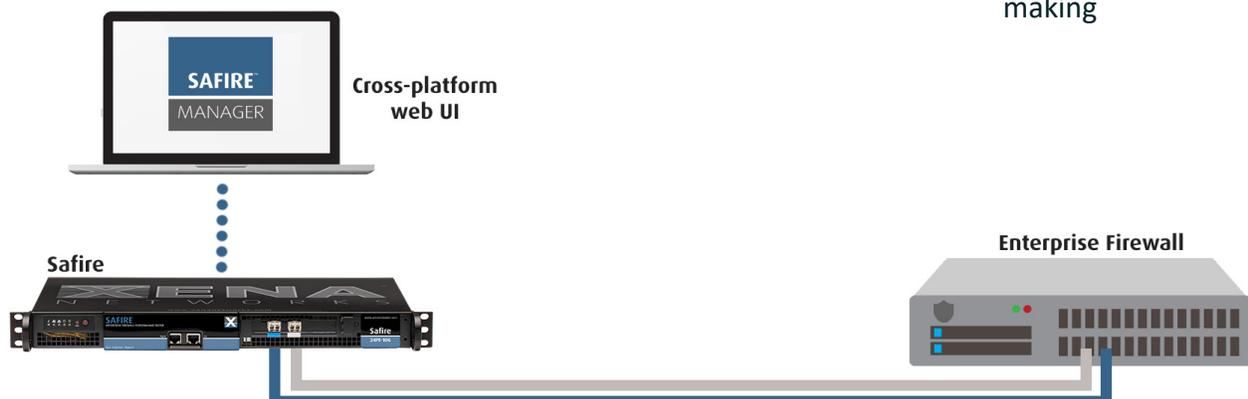
HARDWARE

A lightweight, easy-to-transport chassis with 2 x 10GE test ports and access to 24 packet engines.

SOFTWARE

Safire is controlled via a simple web-interface called SafireManager. Users are guided through the few simple steps of connecting to the firewall and defining each variable relevant to the test – which network scenario and traffic mix to use, how many users to be emulated, what firewall features are enabled and so on. This typically takes only a few clicks, and then Safire is ready to start testing.

Every network has a unique traffic profile defined by the applications being used, the number of users, the data and security policies, the network topology and so on. Performance testing enterprise firewalls – where application-awareness is widely used for policing the traffic – requires unique traffic that matches the traffic profile of that network. To help you do this, Safire includes an extensive library of application traffic to maximize the accuracy of the test.

Once each test is complete, Safire generates a simple-to-read PDF report that summarizes the the key findings on the front page, followed by a wealth of graphical data so you can instantly spot any serious performance issues.

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