

A10 Networks' IDSentrie 1.2 offers identity management and security services

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Event Summary

- One new feature of the IDSentrie version 1.2 firmware from A10 Networks is the Universal Identity Resolver (UIR). The UIR automates the resolution of identities from IP addresses, MAC addresses, and network, application and security logs.
- IDSentrie can also quarantine users until they authenticate via DHCP in a captive portal. Blacklists and whitelists can establish policies for denying or permitting the establishment of IP address leases.
- A new self-help portal takes the load off helpdesks by enabling password resets, password changes, personal profile updates and password-recovery questions.

The 451 take

A10 has features that differentiate it in the crowded market of identity gateway appliances – especially the ability to incorporate identity details in a variety of security, management and compliance logs. The software identity and access management (IAM) suites are much more costly – generally too costly for medium-sized enterprises. While A10's growth has been moderate, we still believe that rapid growth in IAM is in the cards sooner rather than later.

Details

A10 Networks' IDSentrie is a combination of an IAM suite and a security tool that is designed to rapidly derive identities from IP addresses, rapidly de-provision users, strengthen password infrastructure and produce identity-including compliance reports.

IDSentrie handles password management, authentication, simplified sign-on, role-based provisioning and virtual directory services. The earlier version of the product also analyzed firewall logs and associated identities with events, but the new version speeds the process and extends to intrusion prevention, antivirus, Web filtering, syslog, SIM and network monitoring logs. The ability to rapidly associate user identities with IP addresses enables real-time policy enforcement and increases the value of audits for user accountability.

The product was priced at \$12,000 when we spoke with the company last December, but the suggested retail price is now \$20,000. A10 sells through the reseller channel and currently reports 25 customers. There are some 80 employees, up from 50 last winter. A10 has an OEM agreement with **Lancope**, a producer of network-based anomaly-detection appliances.

Competitive landscape

A10's most direct competitors are the vendors offering identity-based access gateway appliances, including **Caymas Systems, Trusted Network Technologies, ConSentry Networks, Applied Identity, Nevis Networks** and **Identity Engines**. The IAM suite vendors can all perform access control, provisioning, virtual directory or metadirectory services. These vendors include **IBM, CA Inc, Hewlett-Packard, BMC Software, Oracle, Sun Microsystems, Novell, RSA Security** (now a subsidiary of EMC), **Beta Systems Software** and **Microsoft**. The surviving makers of IAM point products include **M-Tech Information Technology, MaXware, Courion, Radiant Logic** and **Ping Identity**.

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