

# PROCESSOR.

## New Products

---

### General Information

August 11, 2006 • Vol.28 Issue 32

Page(s) 19 in print issue

## Manage & Consolidate Your Compliance & Security Concerns

### A10's IDSentrie 1000 Provides IT Admins With NAC & IAM Management In One Low-Cost Appliance



#### **A10 Networks IDSentrie 1000**

*Provides users with a convenient, turnkey solution that handles a plethora of NAC and IAM needs*

[www.Processor.com/IDSentrie](http://www.Processor.com/IDSentrie)

NAC (network access control) and IAM (identity access management) have become big subjects of late, now that companies big and small have to stay on top of both compliance and security matters. Startup company A10 Networks has come up with a hardware solution that streamlines many NAC and IAM concerns. Called the IDSentrie 1000, this appliance manages a host of tasks, from managing accounts and passwords of an organization's employees to correlating network IP addresses with a given user without having to manually backtrack through a bunch of IP addresses.

"If an SME [is] suffering from specific pains--like proliferating guest access and hard-to-secure network perimeters because [it has] deployed wireless or remote access or need[s] better visibility for auditing and

compliance purposes--then an appliance like A10 can help," says Forrester Research enterprise networking senior analyst Rob Whitely.

For his part, Whitely recommends the IDSentrie 1000 as an immediate turnkey solution for many SMEs because it simplifies deployment, is easy to manage, and often succeeds in delivering the "80/20 rule--80% of the functionality of more complex, disparate solutions at 20% the cost."

According to A10 Networks' director of product marketing, Philip Kwan, A10 targets the IDSentrie 1000 at three different "pain points" for SMEs. "These are central account management, regardless of where the account resides; our user self-help portal, which helps users take corrective actions on their own without having to get a bunch of IT guys or HR people involved; and [the ability to] implement a component or module from that they want to implement but find to be too expensive from a large vendor," Kwan says.

In addition, the IDSentrie 1000 offers centralized password and account management, group management, access rights management, and support across user data stores for those using Microsoft Active Directory, LDAP, Open-LDAP, Kerberos, Novell eDirectory, Solaris, Red Hat Linux, and various flavors of Unix, among others, says Kwan.

“An IT person can now provision or, more importantly, deprovision and terminate access from one area rather than having to log in to each and every one of those directory services or independent file servers to delete accounts. This becomes extremely helpful [in maintaining] Sarbox or HIPAA compliance. I can now terminate and disable users’ accounts and access rights with one button,” Kwan says.

“This is an interesting product that sits at the crossroads of NAC and IAM, and the competition could technically span far and wide, depending on which piece you want to emphasize,” Whitely says. According to Whitely, several other vendors are trying to bring identity awareness and access control mechanisms into the network, including Infoblox, MetaInfo, BlueCat, Applied Identity, and Identity Engines, all of which offer slightly different differentiations but will be vying for the same budget dollars as IDSentrie 1000. In addition to these companies, Cisco, Microsoft, and other big vendors also offer evolving SME products.

“IDSentrie does well to give both policy capabilities (the ability to inherit or define identity and access rules), as well as enforcement capabilities by including RADIUS and DHCP,” Whitely says. “This puts them more squarely in competition with Infoblox and MetaInfo, so it will come down to aspects like ease-of-management and cost to win over SME customers.” ■

*by Robyn Weisman*