

Situation

Laramie County Community College (LCCC), established in 1968, is a full-service, comprehensive community college with campuses in Cheyenne and Laramie and outreach centers at F.E. Warren Air Force Base and Pine Bluffs. A wide range of academic, career/technical and community education programs are provided.

Due to increased network demands, LCCC was in the process of evaluating its external bandwidth demands and redundancy. To this aim LCCC added an extra Internet link and conducted a review of their aging packet shaper.

Solution

LCCC purchased A10 Networks' EX Series appliance due to its ability to provide both Quality of Service (QoS) and link load balancing. In tandem, LCCC also evaluated a pair of A10's ID Series network identity management appliances to augment the visibility capabilities of the EX Series with user identity (ID) information.

The EX was placed in transparent mode on the internal side of the network and immediately started gathering information on all the traffic flowing through it. The EX linked seamlessly to the ID Series appliances that had been configured to extract IP-to-ID (Internet Protocol to Identity) information from the Active Directory and Novell eDirectory systems.

Success

After installation, the Web-based GUI allowed drill down reports for LCCC that combined both Layer 7 application content inspections with user identity at the click of a button. The visibility gained from placing the EX on the internal, as opposed to the planned external, side of the network, led to the decision of placing the appliance permanently on the inside of the network, thus removing the link load balancing requirement from the project due to the network configuration.

With traffic typically averaging in excess of 12 Mb/s, reports confirmed the high prevalence of youtube.com and mspace.com video content consuming a large amount of bandwidth. The EX also found additional Peer-to-Peer (P2P) protocols that the aging packet shaper had missed.

As the box was put through its paces other features came to the fore, these included:

- Schedulable graphical Adobe PDF format management reports
- Application Visibility
 - High level data leakage protection
 - Views of file transfers leaving the network with filename, action and user ID
 - Identification of non-LCCC SMTP hosts
 - Instant Messenger (IM) alias and user identification
 - Detection of most used pages within Websites via drill down, not just domain
 - Free-form text search of all application visibility allowing for efficient searches
- Network level IPS protection from 26+ network attacks

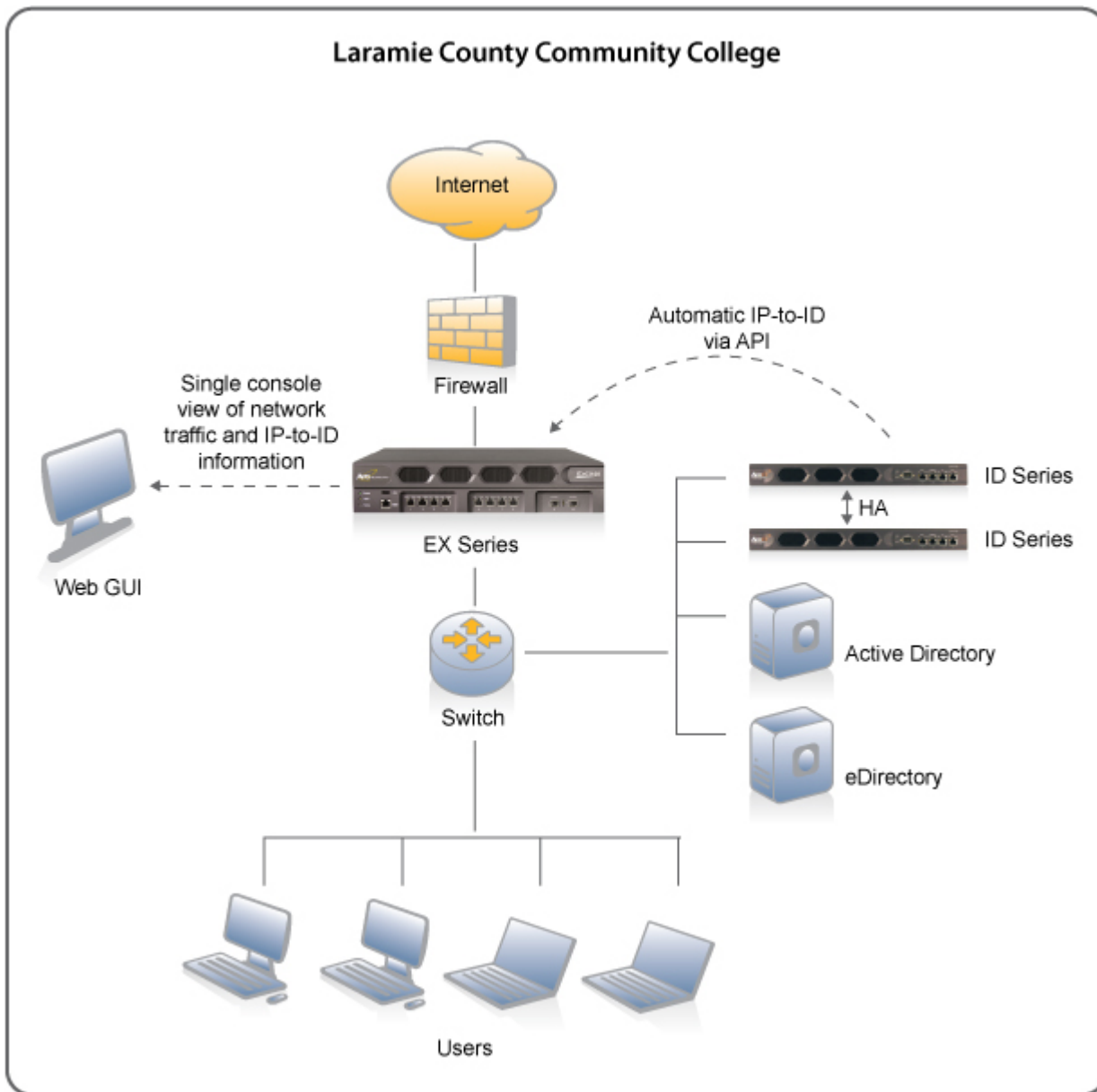
LCCC is a community college with multiple campuses and outreach centers.

A10's EX Series and ID Series integrate to deliver LCCC a bandwidth management solution with user identity visibility.

"Using A10's EX Series allows us to have a more complete view of the traffic on the network, and the ability to zero in from high-level reports to the exact action we need to investigate. The ID Series appliances also pinpoint exactly the user behind an IP address without any additional wasted time of tracking them down."

***--Ted Wickham, senior
network analyst for LCCC***

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About EX Series

A10 Networks' EX Series is the industry's only bandwidth management appliance with identity-based application visibility. By managing bandwidth and traffic with unprecedented user and application visibility, the EX Series helps organizations of all sizes secure, optimize and scale their network edge and perimeter. By consolidating multiple WAN bandwidth management functions into one optimized management platform, organizations can greatly simplify their management of edge services, and increase performance and reliability for applications. For more information, visit:

<http://www.a10networks.com/products/exseries>

About ID Series

A10's ID Series is the industry's only network identity management appliance with instant user identity resolution, which helps organizations of all sizes save time and minimize risk by resolving security issues faster. ID Series also includes features for password management, RADIUS, authentication and access. ID Series is built on a flexible, virtual directory model for rapid integration with existing network infrastructure and support for a variety of popular data stores to simplify complex user resource management, and authentication and access issues. For more information, visit:

<http://www.a10networks.com/products/idseries>

About A10 Networks

A10 Networks was founded in 2004 with a mission to provide innovative networking and security solutions. A10 Networks makes high-performance products that help organizations accelerate, optimize and secure their applications. A10 Networks is headquartered in Silicon Valley with offices in the United States, Japan, China, Korea and Taiwan. For more information, visit www.a10networks.com

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<http://www.lccc.cc.wy.us/>