

Ontrack

Introduction to Enterprise Networking & Wireless Solutions

January 2003

Insight

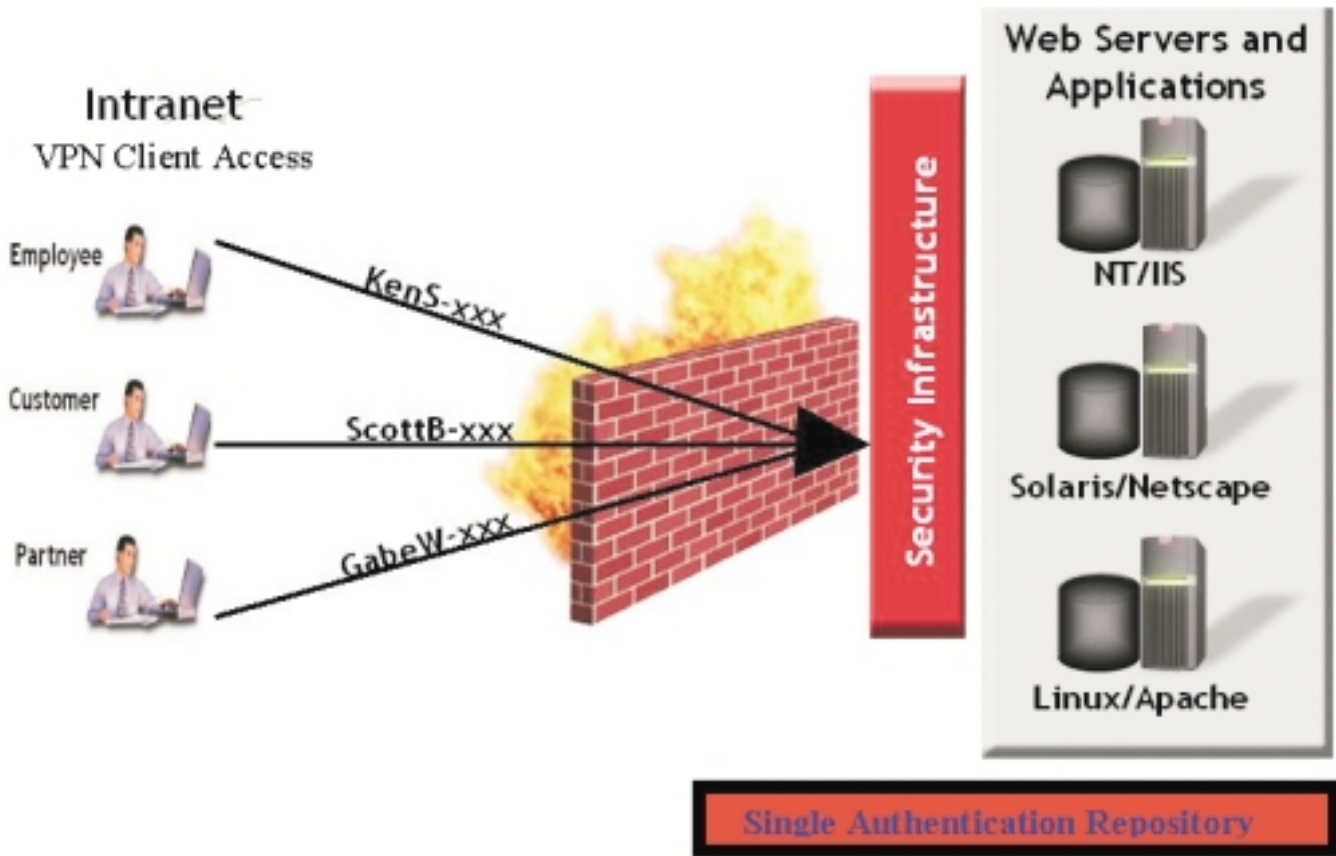
Networks are evolving and so are the challenges of managing them. New trends like virtual private networks, Wireless LAN, IP Telephony multiply complexity, while emerging security issues pose new threats to the network and your business. The Network Management Solutions from Ontrack Systems can help you to take control of the challenges as well as the outcomes.

Ontracks' network management solutions meet tactical and strategic requirements through a methodology built on assessment, design, implementation and life cycle management. Network assessment services lay the groundwork by identifying potential weaknesses and evaluating current management practices. Network consultants then tailor a solution to your business and network environment, while life cycle management services ensure maximum cost-efficiency and performance throughout the life of your network.

Tapping our knowledge of Network Management Solutions saves you time and money in research and analysis. Our assessment services help us narrow the available selections to a manageable number, and then make recommendations for the product that best fits your needs.

“Ontrack is an ISO 9001:2000 certified company with total Customer Satisfaction as its quality policy objective. Ontrack offers a range of IT and consulting services to customers all over the world. Ontrack development centre in Kolkata, India and in Fujairah UAE, specialises in product development for companies in niche areas.”





Common Challenges towards an efficient Network Model

All networks today must pass the S-cubed (S3) test:

- Simple
- Scalable
- Secure

The networks need to be simple to the end users, simple to be managed by administrators, yet to be scalable & secured.

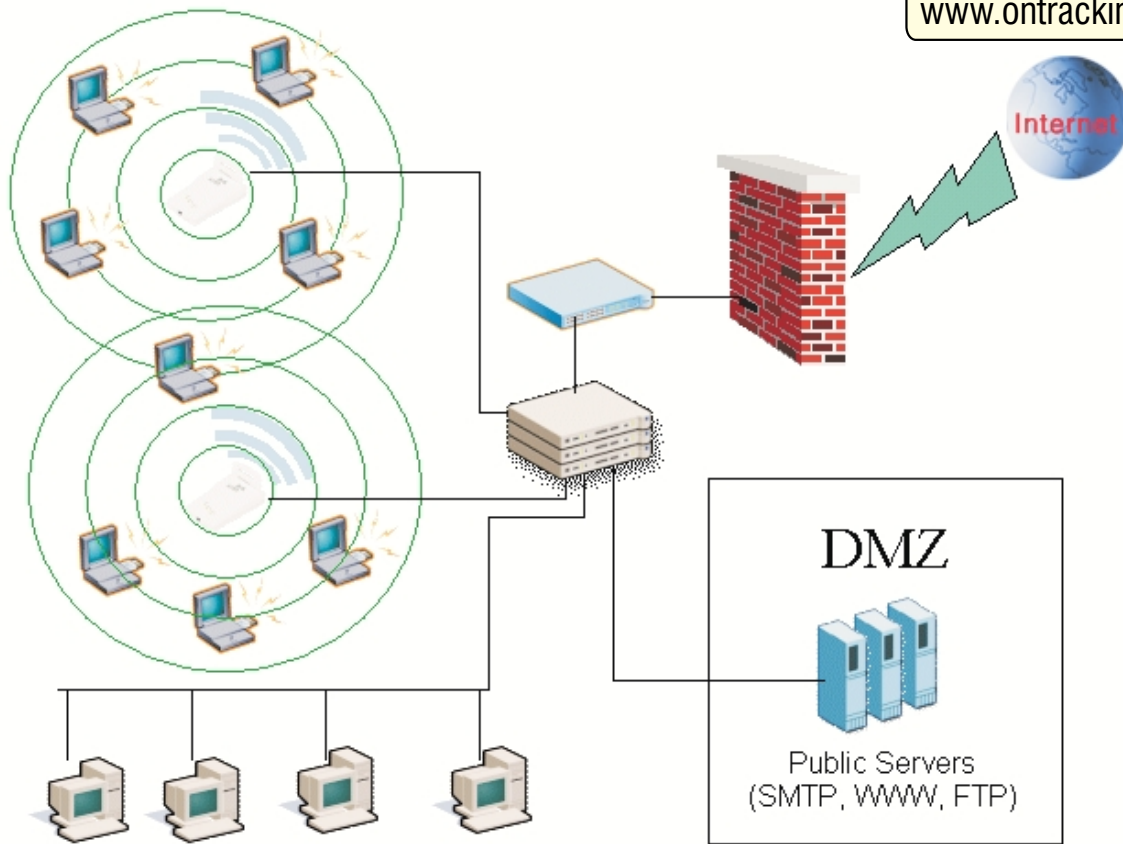
The bottlenecks need to be overcome by the users, in day to day operations are

1. In a typical network scenario where multiple OS and application exists, users need to memorize different sets of Authentication Credentials and not only that, users needs to login multiple times to get access to different applications.
2. Top corporate managers' often face difficulties to get access to their Intranet while they are on tour. This is because they don't have a proper secure means to connect to their Intranet.

3. Users need mobility in their work place. They should be able to roam still need to remain connected to their network.

The bottlenecks need to be overcome by the administrators, in day to day operations are

1. In a typical network scenario where multiple OS and application exists, administrators need to create multiple Authentication Credentials for a single user. More over that it often found that Administrators spend a significant time to reset users password.
2. Corporate policies demand that users should have contorted access to Internet. Users should be restricted to access Internet on some specific times of the day.
3. Administrator should find the way to stop users from fiddling their system. Administrators should be able to restrict users access on their own desktop.
4. In the event of new software installation, troubleshooting a desktop; the administrator needs to be physically present to do the job. Life becomes more difficult when the number of desktop increases.



Our Solution

Ontracks' solution addresses all these issues.

Solutions for the users' problems

1. Multiple Authentication Credentials : As stated in the user problem section, the users needs to login to multiple times to get access to different application. This is because all application including OS, DB uses its own local database for authenticating users. As the Authentication databases are different so as the Authentication Token and even in some cases Authentication Method (LDAP/File authentication). In our solution we have introduced single authentication repository, i.e. for all applications a single authentication credential will be maintained, and that will be valid across all application. It is true even if new applications are introduced. So users need to remember only a single set of Authentication credentials and need to login only once to get access all the other applications.

2. Secure Intranet Access : Now a day's crackers are really smart. They are very efficient to hack user data through some of the hacking tools, readily available on the net. This is true in some extent even if the data is encrypted. Enter VPN. VPN is a secured method to get in to the corporate network. It provides much more than simple encryption. Through Client-to-Site VPN it is the safest method for individuals to get into their own private network.

3. Mobility : The users mobility issue has been addressed by Wireless LAN. By taking advantage of WLAN, users can roam freely and still remain connected to their Network. We can also think WLAN as the extension of Wired LAN. Where Servers, Routers remain connected to the High-Speed Ethernet network, while user roam seamlessly with their wireless.

Solutions for the Administrators' problems

1. Multiple Authentication Credentials : As we have successfully migrated all the authentication credentials for different application to a single repository, administrators needs to create only one user authentication credentials for all different applications. We also took this effort one step further. We have replaced traditional password with bio-metric authentication. Bio-metric authentication is much more secure, and it dismisses the chance of forgetting password for the users. As there is no probability of forgetting passwords, administrators don't have to invest time on resetting user passwords.

2. Internet access restriction for the users : Our solution is equipped with firewall solution that includes Content Filtering, URL Filtering. Through these we can restrict access to Internet and also be able to monitor user activity.

3. Desktop access control/Remote Control/Application Distribution : Desktop management solution is one of the inhabitable components of enterprise network solution. It provides you the ability to control users access to their own desktop. It allows the administrators' to get access to remote desktop from a single location. Now remote control is not limited to Unix & Novell system. Through desktop management you can get access to users desktop as if you are actually sitting on the users desktop. Think of a situation, where there are 1000 desktop and you are asked to take the inventory of all the desktops. Think the amount of effort you have to invest. Desktop management solution is there to help you out. It will provide you the inventory of all desktop in a single management console. Through desktop management you can always install products on remote desktop from a single console. In brief desktop management solution helps you to do all desktop related job from a single location. Our solution includes that as well.



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