Cisco Tackles SMB Security

Written by Marco Attard
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Cisco shifts its attention towards the SMB segment as it launches addition to its ASA with FirePOWER Services, a threat-focused next-generation firewall (NGFW) aimed at midsize companies and branch offices.

ASA with FirePOWER combines stageful firewall, application visibility and control (AVC), advanced malware protection (AMP) and next-generation intrusion prevention capabilities (NGIPS) into a single device. According to the company, it presents multi-layered protection and closes blind spots with many detection techniques, including continuous analysis, big data analytic and Cisco threat intelligence.

Furthermore it carries automated tuning and correlation capabilities while flagging previously unknown malware to reduce time to detection and time to resolution.

It comes in 5 models-- 5506-X (desktop NGFW for home offices and small businesses), 5506W-X (desktop NGFW with integrated wireless access point), 5506H-X (ruggedised NGFW for industrial environments), 5508-X and 5516-X (1RU NGFW for branch offices and midsize businesses).

According to PwC SMBs face the same security challenges as enterprises, but often depend on legacy and outdated security platforms, making them an easy target for attackers.

The ASA with FirePower solution is available now.

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