

Cyber Security Writeup 1

Due

February 14, 2008

Goal

Critically review vendor documentation and product specifications.

Requirements

Bob Roberts, the president of Bob Co, has hired you for another job. Bob talked with a sales representative from Palo Alto Networks at a recent conference and was very impressed with her description of their next generation firewall. Bob is considering scrapping their current PIX border firewall architecture for the new firewalls produced by Palo Alto Networks. However, before he takes such a potentially expensive step, he would like you to perform an independent review of their literature and anything else you can find on the new product. Since you are familiar with their current environment, you are in a good position to determine if the new technology would really be beneficial for them.

The web site for Palo Alto Networks is <http://www.paloaltonetworks.com>.

Your Deliverables

Bob will be expecting a 3-4 page report summarizing your results. In particular, your report should contain the following elements:

- Itemize and briefly explain the major features of the new firewall architecture that differ from a traditional Enterprise firewall like the PIX. (3 to 5 items).
- A discussion of how this technology will work in an IPv6 environment.
- Highlight three items (if you can find them) that you feel are technically strong (and not just marketing fluff) and relevant to Bob Co's environment. Provide your reasoning and supporting documentation.
- Highlight three items (if you can find them) that you have strong reservations about either absolutely or in absence of additional technical information. Provide your reasoning and supporting documentation.
- Summarize your findings, and make a next step recommendation for Bob Co.