



# **Cisco Security Agent (CSA) Network Admission Control (NAC)**

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# Agenda

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- **CSA and NAC Presentation (30')** –vincent bieri
- **CSA Demo (20')** – pascal delprat
- **Q&A / Discussions (10')** – all

# Cisco Security Agent (CSA)



# Agenda – CSA

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- **Overview of Cisco Security Agent**
- **Management Model**
- **CSA Implementation and Architecture**
- **Security Functions**
- **Performance Impact**
- **Integration with Other Security Technologies**
- **Roadmap CSA 4.5**

# What is Cisco Security Agent?

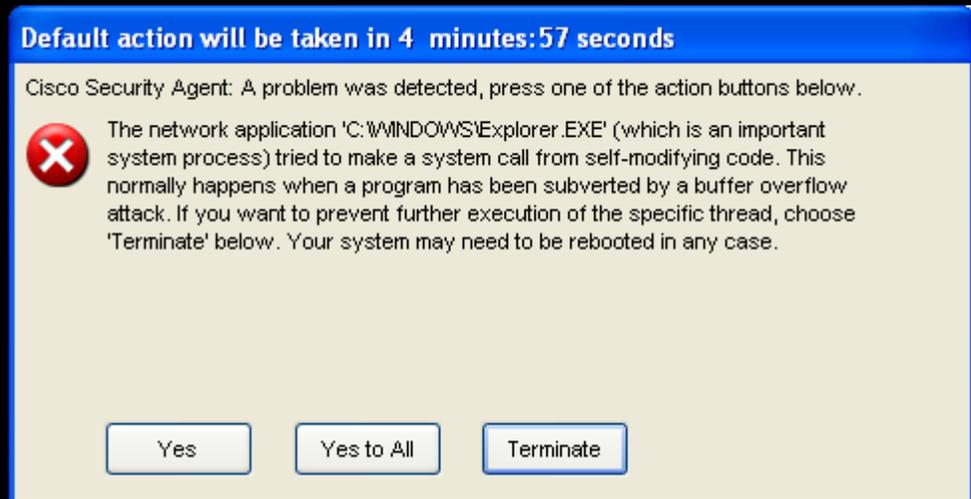
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- A security software for desktop, laptop, & server computers that minimizes patch and security problems with **behavior-based OS kernel wrappers**
- Centrally administered, with distributed, autonomous policy enforcement
  - Scales well & also **works with intermittently connected hosts**
  - Can also adapt defenses based upon **correlation of events from different hosts**
- Effective against existing & previously unseen attacks
  - **Stopped nimda, code red, slammer, blaster with out-of-the-box policies**

# JPEG (GDI+) OVERFLOW

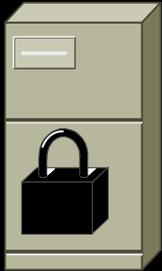
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|   |                         |  |  |                              |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| 6 | 9/22/2004<br>5:12:48 PM | <a href="#">XP-PRO-SP1A</a> <b>Alert</b>   | The process 'C:\WINDOWS\Explorer.EXE' (as user XP-PRO-SP1A\Administrator) tried to accept a TCP connection from 172.20.12.1 on port 4444 and this was prevented.<br><a href="#">Details</a> <a href="#">Rule 507</a> <a href="#">Wizard</a>  | <a href="#">Find Similar</a> |
| 5 | 9/22/2004<br>5:10:03 PM | <a href="#">XP-PRO-SP1A</a> <b>Warning</b> | The critical system application 'C:\WINDOWS\Explorer.EXE' (as user XP-PRO-SP1A\Administrator) tried to call the function CreateProcessA("CMD") from a buffer (the return address was 0x19163cb). The code at this address is '515351ff 75006872 feb316ff 5504ffd0 89e6ff75 0068add9 05ceff55 0489c36a'. This either happens when a program uses self-modifying code or when a program has been subverted by a buffer overflow attack. The user chose 'Yes'.<br><a href="#">Details</a> <a href="#">Rule 97</a> | <a href="#">Find Similar</a> |

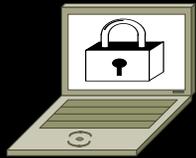


# Cisco Security Agent (CSA) Components

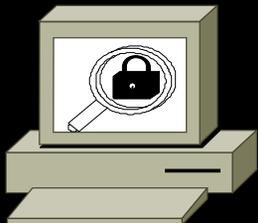
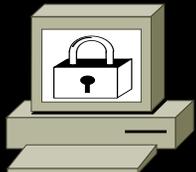
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**Management Server**—deploys Security Policies, Receives and Stores Events in SQL Database, Alerts Administrators, Deploys Software, Part of Cisco VPN and Security Management System



**Cisco Security Agents**—Enforce Security Policy Received from Management Server, Sends Events Immediately, Interacts with User (If Necessary), Protects Itself, Poll for Policy Updates, Run on Windows and Solaris

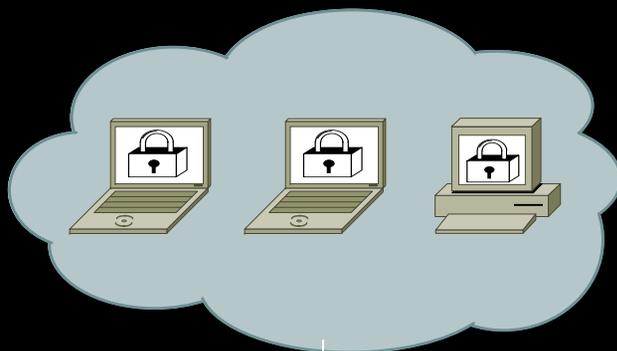


**CSA Management Console**—Web Browser Interface, Policy Configuration Tool, Event Views

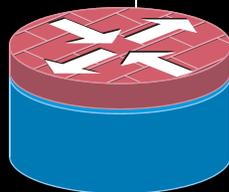
# Management Architecture

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Remote Users or Branch Offices

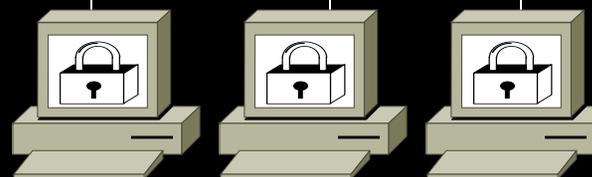
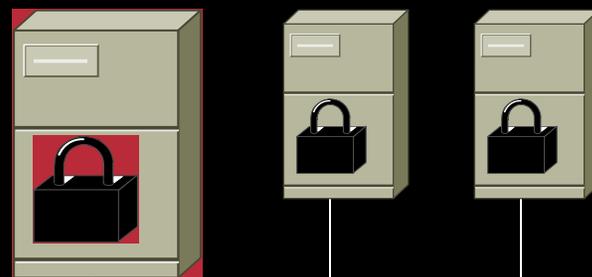


DMZ



Management Server

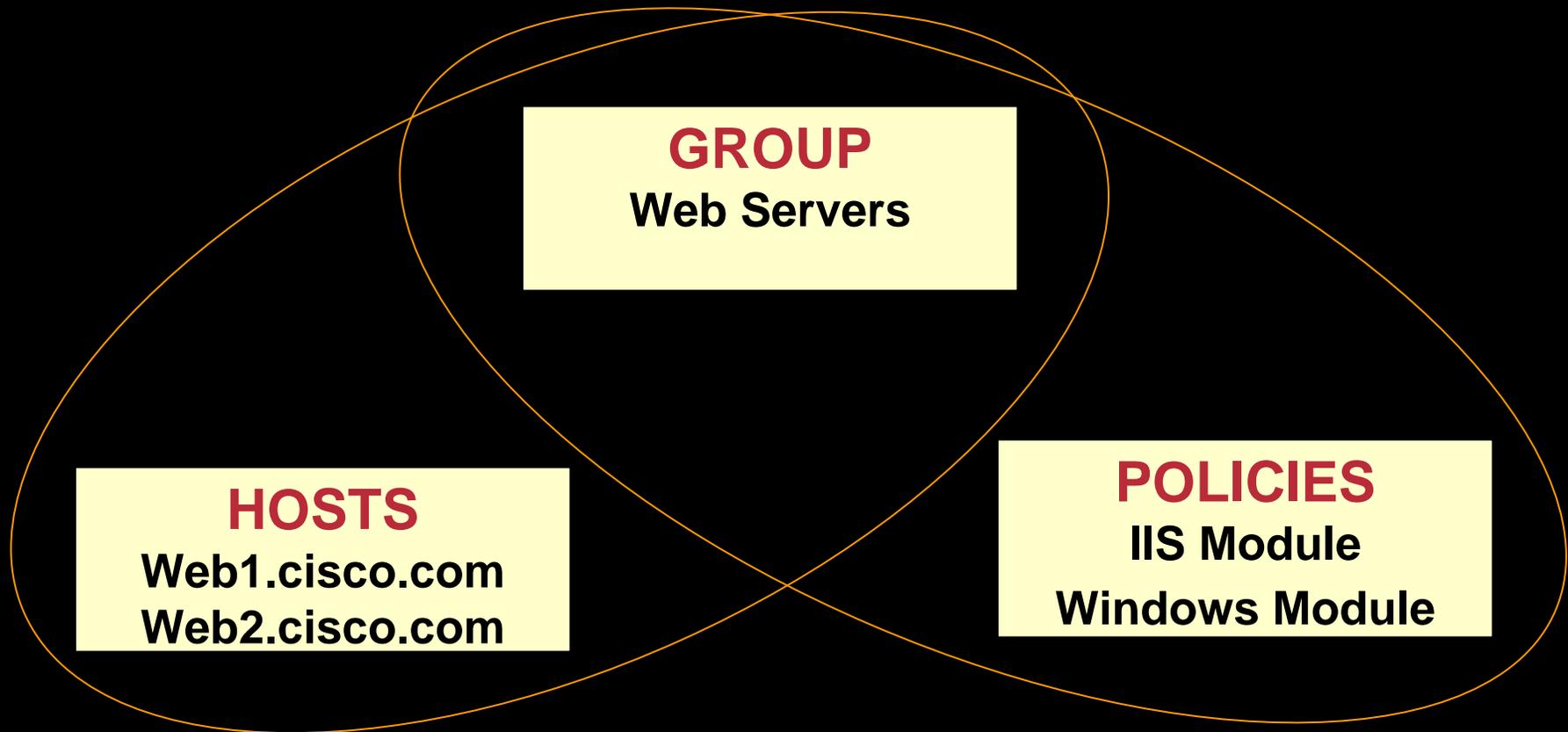
- Events are pushed to it
- Configuration is pulled from it



Campus

# Hosts are Attached to a Group that includes a set of Policies defined by Rules

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# Groups

- Used to Organize Logical Collections of Hosts

e.g. “IIS Servers”, “Executive Desktops”, or “SQL Servers”

The screenshot shows the Management Center for Cisco Security Agents interface. The main window displays a table of host groups with columns for Name, Description, OS, and Hosts. A red box highlights a subset of these groups, which is detailed in the inset table below.

| Items | Name  | Description   | OS      | Hosts                   |
|-------|---|---|---------|-------------------------|
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Apache Servers - Dedicated       | Apache web server systems that are not running any other server applications  | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Default Servers                  | Default group for systems that install the Server agent kit                   | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> IDS Mode Servers                 | Servers running in intrusion detection mode with no preventive capabilities   | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> iPlanet Servers - Dedicated      | iPlanet web server systems that are not running any other server applications | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mission Critical Systems         | Systems that need to be monitored at a higher priority                        | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarantined Systems              | Systems under network quarantine  | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Test Mode Systems                | Systems operating in test mode  | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Servers                      | Apache and iPlanet web server systems   | UNIX    |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Apache Servers - Dedicated       | Apache web server systems that are not running any other server applications  | Windows |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> CiscoWorks VMS Systems           | Systems running the CiscoWorks VMS product bundle                             | Windows | <a href="#">1 host</a>  |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Default Desktops                 | Default group for systems that install the Desktop agent kit                  | Windows | <a href="#">2 hosts</a> |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Default Remote Laptops           | Default group for systems that install the Remote Laptop agent kit            | Windows |                         |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> Default Servers                  | Default group for systems that install the Server agent kit                   | Windows | <a href="#">1 host</a>  |
|       | <input type="checkbox"/> DHCP and DNS Servers - Dedicated | DHCP and DNS servers that are not running any other server applications       | Windows |                         |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Default Desktops</u>                 | Default group for systems that install the Desktop agent kit            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Default Remote Laptops</u>           | Default group for systems that install the Remote Laptop agent kit      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Default Servers</u>                  | Default group for systems that install the Server agent kit             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>DHCP and DNS Servers - Dedicated</u> | DHCP and DNS servers that are not running any other server applications |

# Policies

- Are attached to zero or more groups
- Are composed of logical collections of rules

The screenshot shows the Management Center for Cisco Security Agents interface. The browser address bar indicates the URL is https://stormserver/csamc/webadmin. The interface includes a navigation menu with options like Monitor, Systems, Configuration, Maintenance, Reports, Profiler, Search, and Help. A table lists various policy modules, each with a checkbox, a link to the number of rules, a description, and a platform type. A red box highlights a subset of modules, and a red arrow points from the 'CiscoWorks VMS Module' row to the highlighted box.

| Module Name  | Rules                    | Description  | Platform |
|--|--------------------------|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insecure Management Module        | <a href="#">4 rules</a>  | Policy module to manage UNIX systems in an insecure manner           | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Network Lockdown Module           | <a href="#">2 rules</a>  | Policy module to restrict ALL network access                         | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Network Quarantine Module         | <a href="#">2 rules</a>  | Policy module to prevent ALL network access                          | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Required System Module            | <a href="#">11 rules</a> | Policy module to allow critical UNIX functions                       | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restrictive Apache Module         | <a href="#">11 rules</a> | Restrictive policy module for UNIX Apache Web Server                 | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restrictive iPlanet Module        | <a href="#">8 rules</a>  | Restrictive policy module for iPlanet Web Server                     | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restrictive SendMail Module       | <a href="#">8 rules</a>  | Restrictive policy module for UNIX SendMail Server                   | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secure Management Module          | <a href="#">8 rules</a>  | Policy module to manage UNIX systems in a secure manner              | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Server Module                     | <a href="#">3 rules</a>  | Base policy module for UNIX servers                                  | UNIX     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cisco VPN Client Module           | <a href="#">7 rules</a>  | Policy module for Cisco VPN client                                   | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CiscoWorks Base Security Module   | <a href="#">21 rules</a> | Base security policy module for all systems running CiscoWorks       | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CiscoWorks Restrictive VMS Module | <a href="#">3 rules</a>  | Policy module for systems running only the VMS bundle                | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CiscoWorks VMS Module             | <a href="#">29 rules</a> | Policy module for servers running CiscoWorks VMS product components  | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Security Module            | <a href="#">22 rules</a> | Base security policy module for all Windows systems                  | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Web Server Security Module | <a href="#">15 rules</a> | Base web server request filter policy module for all Windows systems | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Data Theft Prevention Module      | <a href="#">10 rules</a> | Policy module to prevent theft of sensitive data files               | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desktop Module                    | <a href="#">12 rules</a> | Base policy module for desktops                                      | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distributed Firewall Module       | <a href="#">10 rules</a> | Policy module to restrict network services                           | Windows  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File Integrity Module             | <a href="#">4 rules</a>  | Policy module to monitor access to key system files                  | Windows  |

# Rules

- Are attached to policies
- Are where security functions are specified
- May enable specific heuristics

Management Center for Cisco Security Agents - Mozilla

https://stormserver/csamc/webadmin

Management Center for Cisco Security Agents

Configuration > Policies > Desktop Module [Windows] > Rules

View All rules

Items : 12

| ID  | Type                         | Events | Status   | Action | Log | Description   |
|-----|------------------------------|--------|----------|--------|-----|---|
| 336 | File access control          |        | Enabled  | 🚫      | 📄   | Email applications, read/write dynamically quarantined files  |
| 340 | File access control          |        | Enabled  | 🚫      | 📄   | Email applications, user invoked applications and command shells  |
| 334 | File access control          |        | Disabled | ✅      | 📄   | Backup applications, read all files   |
| 337 | COM component access control |        | Enabled  | ✅      | 📄   | PDA applications, access outlook  |
| 342 | File access control          |        | Enabled  | ✅      | 📄   | Initializing local applications, read/write registry files types (which are considered vulnerable to virus) |
| 343 | File access control          |        | Enabled  | ❓      | 📄   | All applications, write PDA applications  |
| 335 | File access control          |        | Enabled  | ❓      | 📄   | Email applications, write Suspicious or Dangerous Email files   |
| 338 | COM component access control |        | Enabled  | ❌      | 📄   | Vulnerable applications and Windows Scripting Host, accessing outlook                                       |
| 332 | Network worm protection      |        | Enabled  | -      | -   | Detect and protect against network worms  |

|  |         |   |   |   |
|--|---------|---|---|---|
| <a href="#">File access control</a>          | Enabled | ❓ | 📄 | All applications, write PDA applications                              |
| <a href="#">File access control</a>          | Enabled | ❓ | 📄 | Email applications, write Suspicious or Dangerous Email files         |
| <a href="#">COM component access control</a> | Enabled | ❌ | 📄 | Vulnerable applications and Windows Scripting Host, accessing outlook |
| <a href="#">Network worm protection</a>      | Enabled | - | - | Detect and protect against network worms                              |
| <a href="#">Trojan detection</a>             | Enabled | - | - | Detect and terminate potential application trojans                    |

Delete Enable Disable No rule changes pending Generate rules

Logged in as: admin

# CSA Security Functions

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- **System hardening**
  - Syn-flood protection
  - Malformed packet protection
  - Restart of failed services
- **Resource protection**
  - File access control
  - Network access control
  - Registry access control
  - COM component access control
- **Control of executable content**
  - Protection against email worms
  - Protection against automatic execution of downloaded files or ActiveX controls
- **Application-related**
  - Application run control
  - Executable file version control
  - Protection against code injection
  - Protection of process memory
  - Protection against buffer overflows
  - Protection against keystroke logging
- **Detection**
  - Packet sniffers and unauthorized protocols
  - Network scans
  - Monitoring of OS event logs
- **Network firewalling**

# CSA Implementation Approaches

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- **Call Interception**

Intercept system calls between applications and the operating system

- **Security policy**

Pre-defined rules

Heuristics

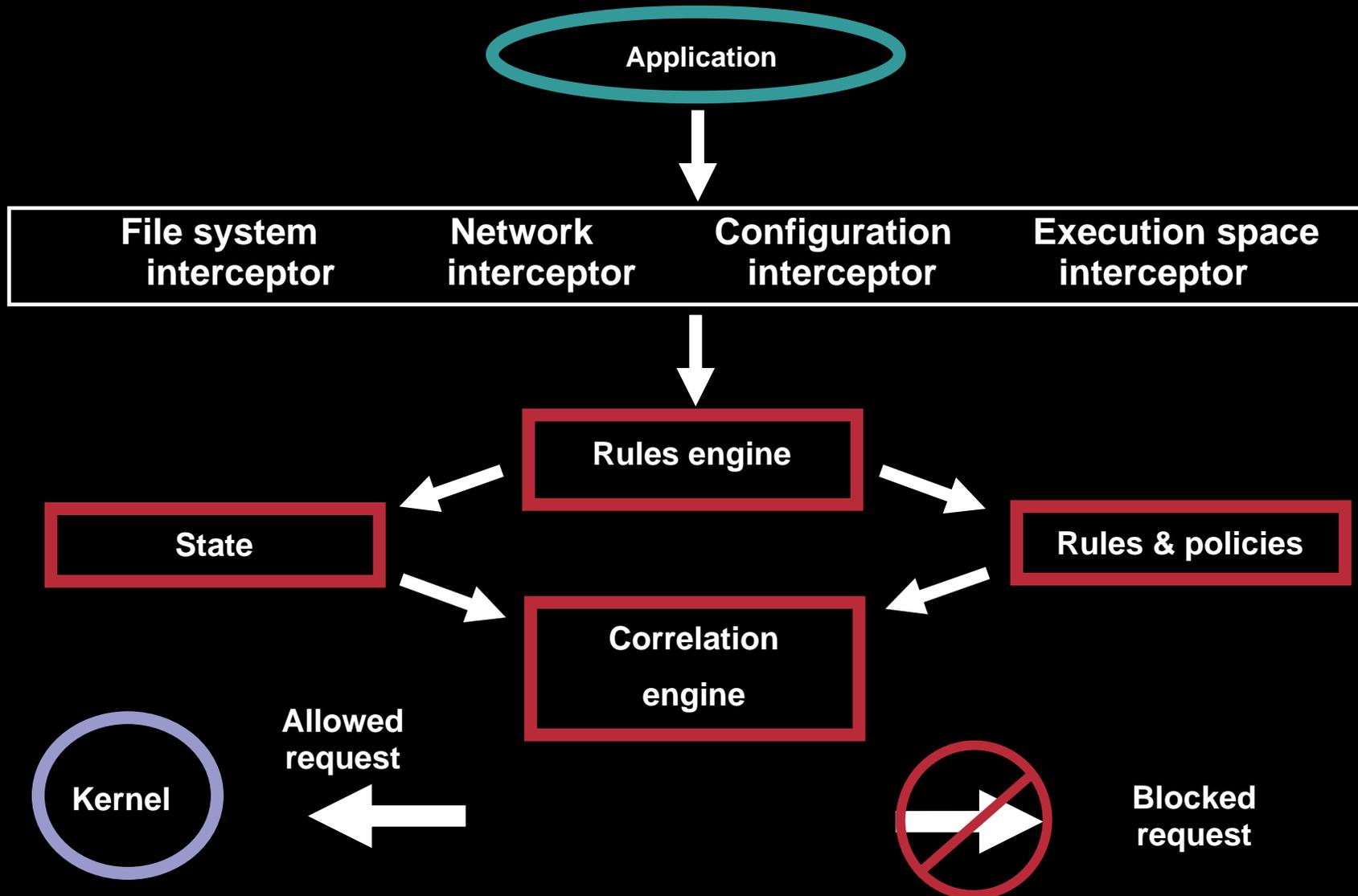
Combination of methods

- **System “state” monitoring**

Application behavior—What are the running applications doing?

# CSA Architecture Overview

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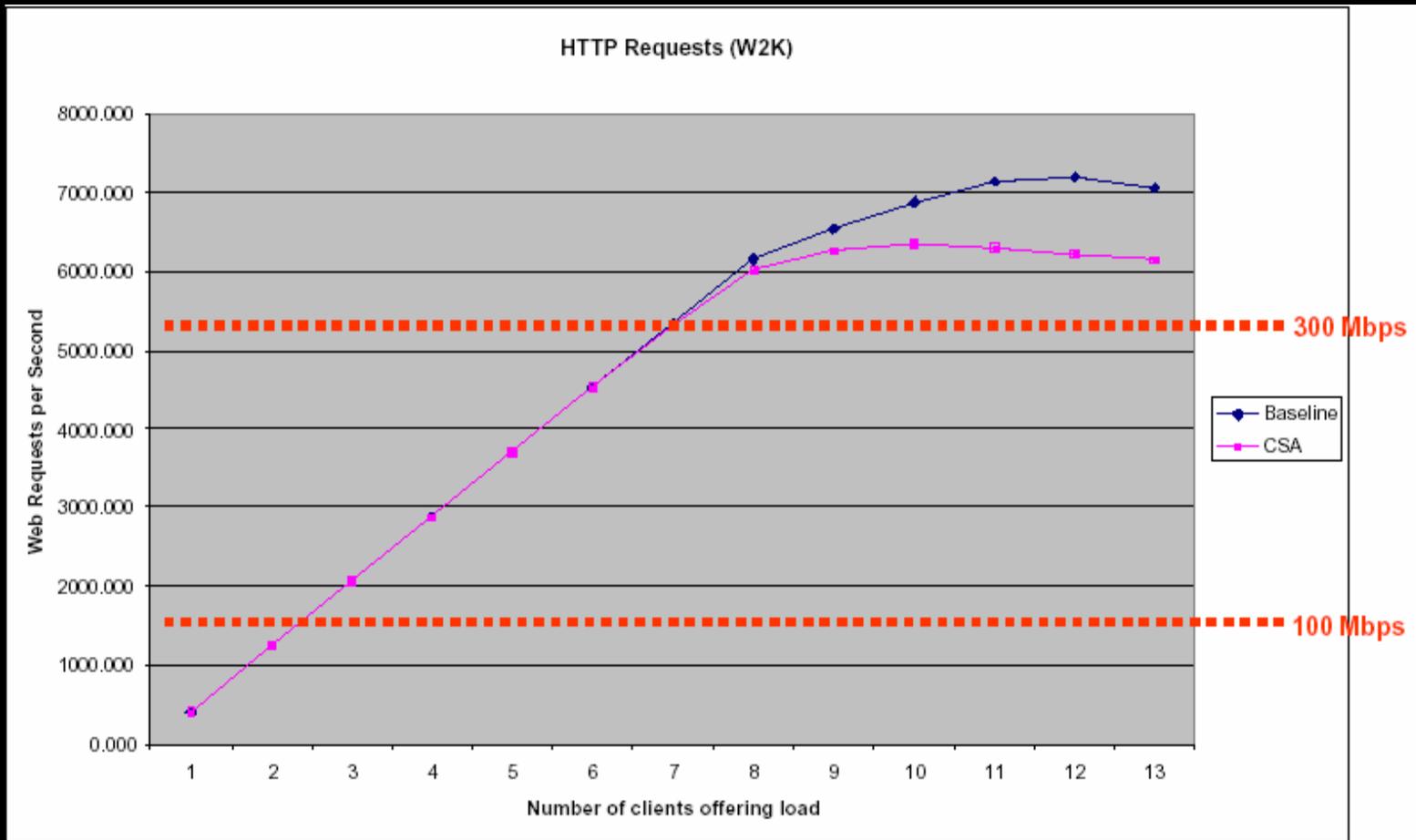


# Performance Impact

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- **Windows CPU usage: 1-5%**
- **Solaris CPU usage: 3-10%**
- **Memory usage: 7–10MB, up to 20**
- **Network impact:**
  - Policy download: 35-70k**
  - Event: ~3k**
  - Poll: ~2.5k**
  - Polling interval change: ~3k**
  - Software update: Varies**
- **Transactions per second is a very good way to measure latency**

# Performance: Transactions per Second



**Note: Performed on W2K SP3 Running IIS 5.0; Single 2Ghz P4 CPU, 1Gbps NIC, Non-hyperthreaded, 533Mhz System Bus**

# CSA Integration other Security Technologies

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- **VPN “Are You There”**
  - Requires version 4.0 of Cisco VPN client and concentrator
  - Also supported in Checkpoint VPN-1
- **Network Admission Control (NAC)**
- **Complement NIDS and AV**
  - Combining signature detection and behavioral protection
  - Need AV to eradicate a virus, worm, or trojan
- **Log Collectors and Correlators**
- **Windows Event Viewer and AV logs into CSA events**

# Cisco Security Agent Roadmap

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## New Features – version 4.5

- MC Scalable to 100,000 agents
- Antivirus DAT version checking
- Application/patch tracking
- Location-based policies
- User-based profiles
- Agent Internationalization & Localization
- Policies based on NAC status
- Security Enhancements

## New Features



## New Agent Platforms

RTM: 22 July 2004  
CCO Download: 22 July 2004  
FCS: 22 July 2004

## New Agent Platforms – ver 4.0.3

- Windows 2003 Server
- Windows XP SP2

RTM: 13 Dec 2004  
CCO Download: 13 Dec 2004

## New Agent Platforms – ver 4.5

- Windows Clusters
- RedHat Enterprise Linux 3.0
  - Enterprise Server, Workstation
  - Advanced Server (Stretch Goal)
- Windows XP Home Edition

# Network Admission Control (NAC)



# Agenda – NAC

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- **Overview of Network Admission Control**
- **NAC Phase 1 (Current) Model and Components**
- **NAC Credentials**
- **NAC Phase 2 (Future) Model and Components**

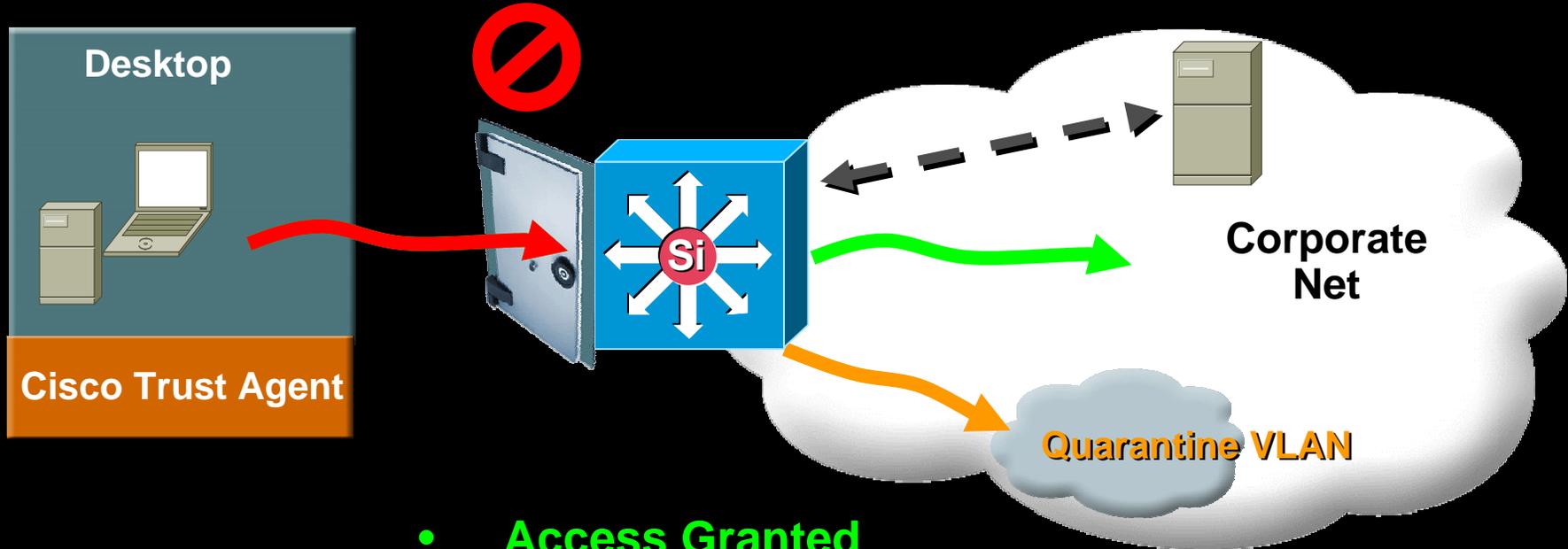
# Network Admission Control (NAC)

*preventing non-compliant host*

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Client attempts connection

Authentication and policy check of client

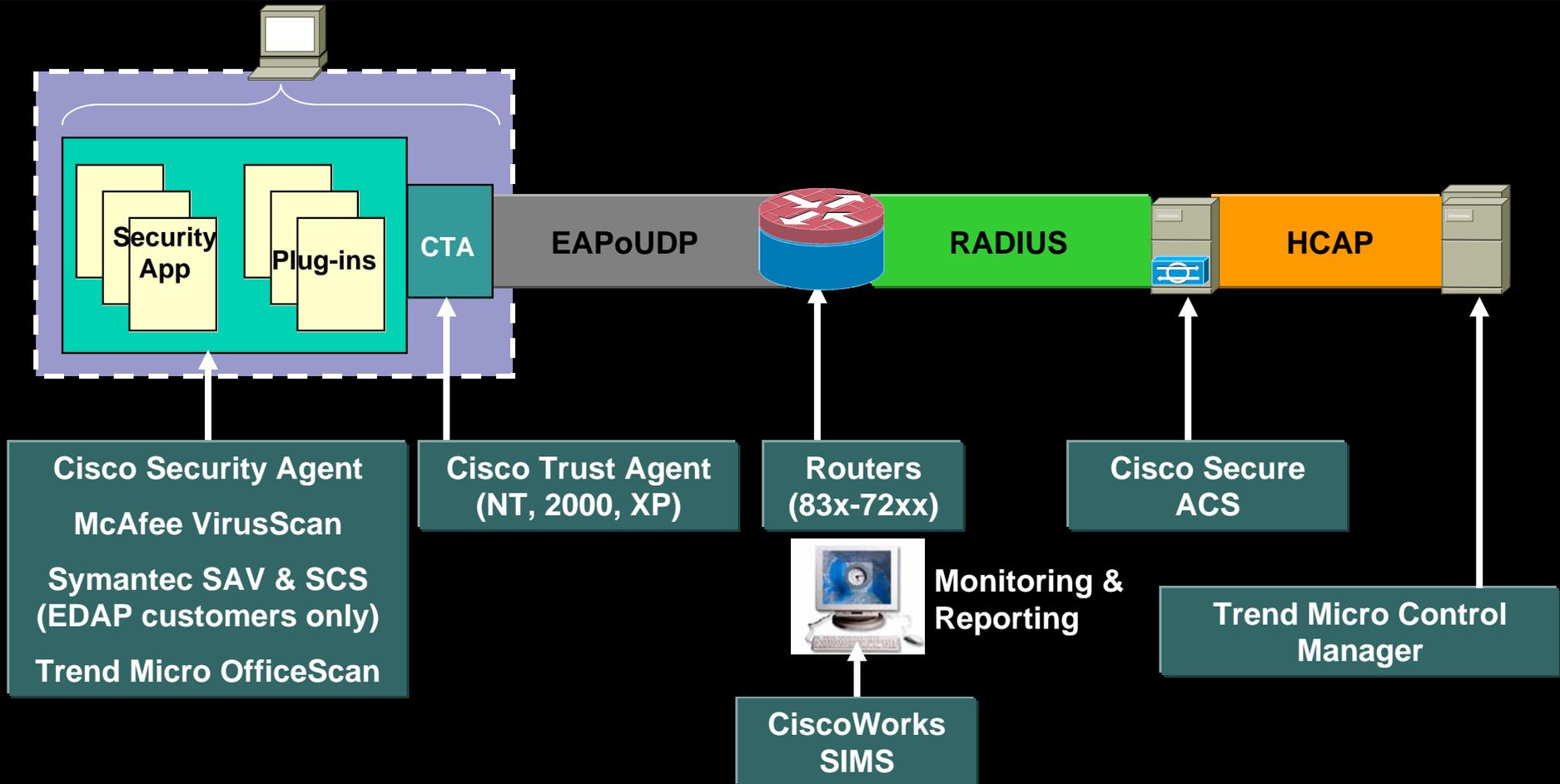


- **Access Granted**
- **Access Denied**
- **Quarantine Remediation**

# NAC Phase 1 Logical Components

June 2004

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# Credentials Available

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- **NAC credentials characterize the state of an asset, and compliment ID credentials for the asset and user**
- **Credentials form the basis for policy expressions for network admission control**
- **Below are most of the initial credentials available at NAC phase 1 ship**
- **Vendors will add new credentials often and at any time**

## FROM CISCO AGENTS

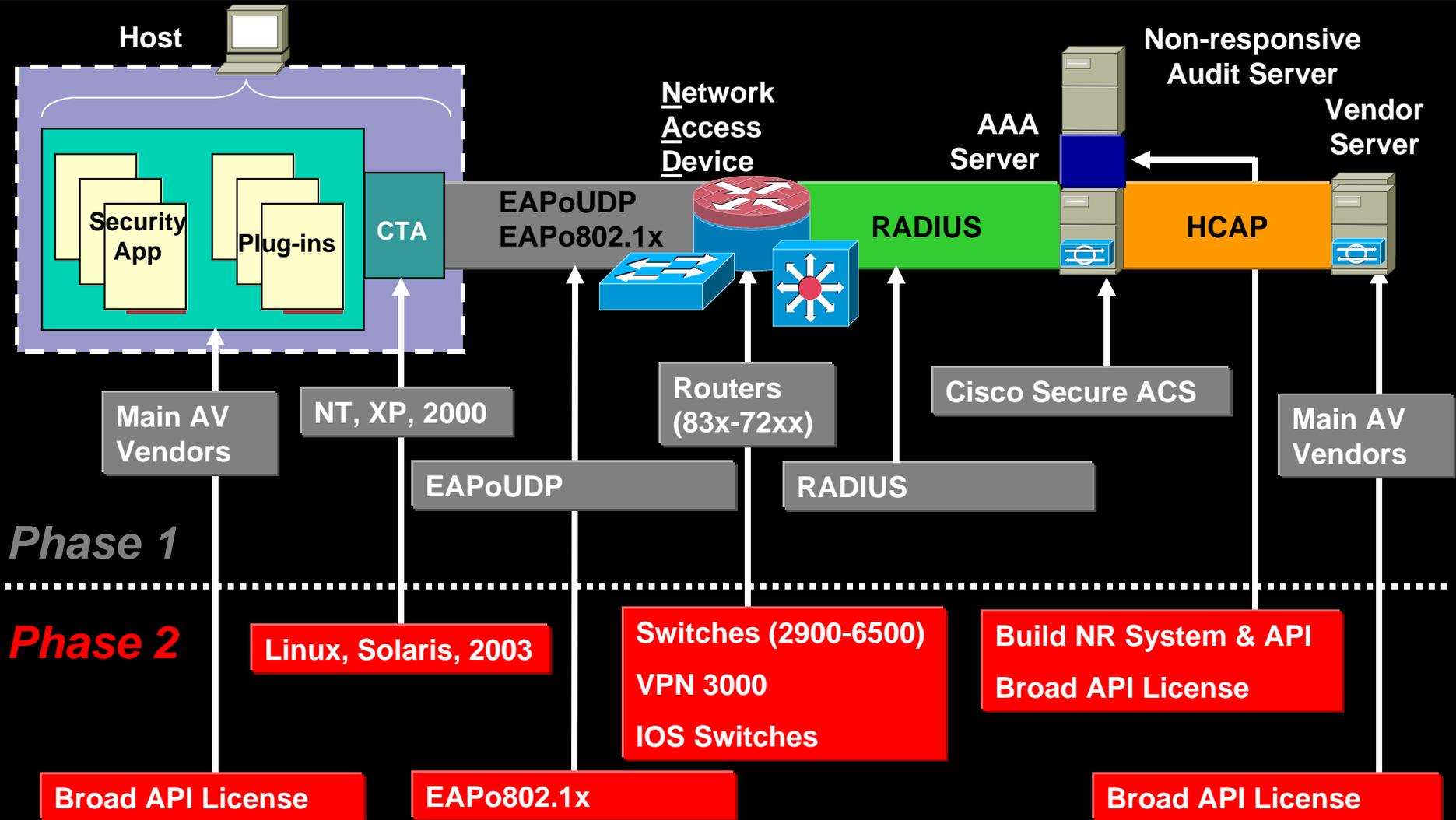
- **CTA 1.0**
  - CTA version
  - Operating system name
  - Operating system version
- **CSA 4.0.2**
  - Installed Service Packs
  - Installed hotfixes
  - CSA version
  - CSA enabled or disabled
  - FQDN of CSA-MC (VMS)
  - CSA status
  - Last poll of CSA-MC (VMS)

## FROM VENDORS

- **Anti-Virus**
  - AV software name or identifier
  - Software version
  - Scan engine version
  - DAT/pattern file version
  - AV enabled or not
  - On-access scan enabled
  - DAT/pattern file release date
- **Other Software**
  - Varies by vendor
  - E.g. SYMC SCS 2.0 includes FW and HIDS

# NAC Phase 2 Logical Components

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