

Protecting the network with IBM Proventia Network Intrusion Prevention System

The IBM Proventia® Network Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) stops Internet threats before they impact your business and delivers protection to all three layers of the network: core, perimeter and remote segments. Preemptive protection – protection that works ahead of the threat – is available from IBM Internet Security Systems™ (ISS) through its proprietary combination of line-speed performance, security intelligence and a multifaceted protection engine.

When evaluating intrusion prevention technology, businesses often struggle to balance and optimize the following six areas:

- *Performance*
- *Security*
- *Reliability*
- *Deployment*
- *Management*
- *Confidence*

Proventia Network IPS delivers on all six counts, with performance, preemptive protection, high availability, simple deployment and management, and excellent customer support.

Do not compromise on protection or performance

Security should enhance network performance, not detract from it. Purpose-built Proventia Network IPS hardware offers high throughput, low latency and quick uptime to help ensure that networks run efficiently and safely. It includes the following performance features:

- *A full spectrum of throughput handling (10Mbps – 6Gbps)*
- *Intelligent deep-packet inspection using FlowSmart technology*
- *Bounded latency*
- *Traffic flow in the event of system error or loss of power*

Security comes only from preemptive protection

Proventia Network IPS is engineered to protect networks from entire attack categories, including:

- *Worms*
- *Spyware*
- *Peer-to-peer (P2P)*
- *Denial-of-service (DOS) and distributed denial-of-service (DDOS)*
- *Cross-site scripting*
- *SQL injection*
- *Buffer overflow*
- *Web directory traversal*

Proventia Network IPS is backed by the IBM Internet Security Systems X-Force® research and development team. IBM ISS also tracks Internet threat levels around the world from its Global Threat Operations Center to enhance the protection inherent in Proventia Network IPS.

Reliability is not negotiable

Devices placed in the flow of network traffic must be extremely reliable. Proventia Network IPS offers high availability (active/active or active/passive), hot-swappable redundant power supplies and hot-swappable redundant hard drives to help maintain the flow of network traffic.

Relative ease of deployment benefits IT staff

Proventia Network IPS features Layer 2 architecture that does not require network reconfiguration. In addition, network and security administrators can become comfortable and familiar with the device's behavior by choosing one of three operating modes:

- *Active protection (intrusion prevention mode)*
- *Passive detection (intrusion detection mode)*
- *Inline simulation (simulates inline prevention)*

Trusted by demanding security clients	Highly regarded in the industry	Certified by leading independent testing organizations
The world's largest banks	Frost & Sullivan Network Security Company of the Year Award 2007 ¹	1NSS Approved IPS + Enterprise 2006 for Proventia Network IPS GX5108 ⁴
Large governments around the world based on gross national income (GNI)	SC Magazine Security Company of the Year 2007 ²	NSS Approved IPS + Branch Office 2006 for Proventia Network IPS GX4004 ⁵
The world's largest public insurance companies	SC Magazine Best Integrated Security Solution 2007 ³	
The world's largest IT companies		

Centralized management streamlines protection

Proventia Network IPS is centrally managed by the IBM Proventia Management SiteProtector™ system for scalability and flexibility. The SiteProtector system provides simple, powerful configuration and control of Proventia agents, along with robust reporting, event correlation and comprehensive alerting.

Security expertise and excellent support give organizations confidence in their IPS

IBM ISS is a leader in intrusion detection and prevention. IBM earns client trust, achieves industry recognition and maintains certifications to ensure confidence in Proventia Network IPS and other protection solutions.

Client support is a primary focus as well. IBM ISS was one of the first in the security industry to receive Global Support Center Practices (SCP) Certification and is a member of the Service & Support Professionals Association (SSPA) Advisory Board.

Additional features and benefits of Proventia Network IPS

Granular policy configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy per port• Policy per virtual local area network (VLAN) tag• Policy per Internet Protocol (IP) address/range
Intrusion prevention responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Block• Alert• Ignore• Log evidence• E-mail• Quarantine• Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)• User-specified
Attack traffic logging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attack packet logging• TCP-dump capable
Custom signature support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proventia OpenSignature (based on Snort 2.4)
Trust X-Force option	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to block new threats based on X-Force team expert recommendations
Firewall rules	Rules based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Port• IP address• Packet type
Quarantine functionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to block suspicious traffic from a particular host to reduce the risk of infecting other hosts
IBM Proventia product family access control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acts as an access control point on the network by helping to ensure that computer systems communicating on the corporate network are protected by an up-to-date IBM Proventia Desktop Endpoint Security agent

“The Proventia Network Intrusion Prevention System provides the granularity that is required to protect, without interfering with business processes.”

—Eric Ayotte, Network Security Solutions Group, M&T Bank Corporation

“We have a number of IBM Proventia appliances and have found them to function flawlessly in terms of performance.”

—John Libbeter, Capita Business Services



“ All in all, Proventia continues to be one of the most consistently accurate IDS/IPS systems we have tested.”

—Bob Walder, Director, The NSS Group (www.nss.co.uk)

About IBM ISS

IBM ISS is the trusted security expert to global enterprises and world governments, providing products and services that protect against Internet threats. An established world leader in security since 1994, IBM ISS delivers proven cost efficiencies and reduces regulatory and business risk across the enterprise. IBM ISS products and services are based on the proactive security intelligence conducted by the X-Force team—a world authority in vulnerability and threat research. For more information about the Proventia product family, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner. You may also call 1 800 776-2362 or visit ibm.com/services/us/iss.

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All performance data contained in this publication was obtained in the specific operating environment and under the conditions described above and is presented as an illustration. Performance obtained in other operating environments may vary, and customers should conduct their own testing.

1 Frost & Sullivan

2 SC Magazine

3 SC Magazine

4 NSS: see <http://www.nss.co.uk/certification/ips/cetipsresults.htm> for more information.

5 NSS: see <http://www.nss.co.uk/certification/ips/certipsresults.htm> for more information.

6 ICSA Labs Certified: see <http://www.icsalabs.com/> for more information.