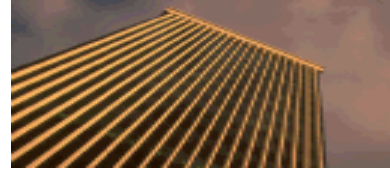


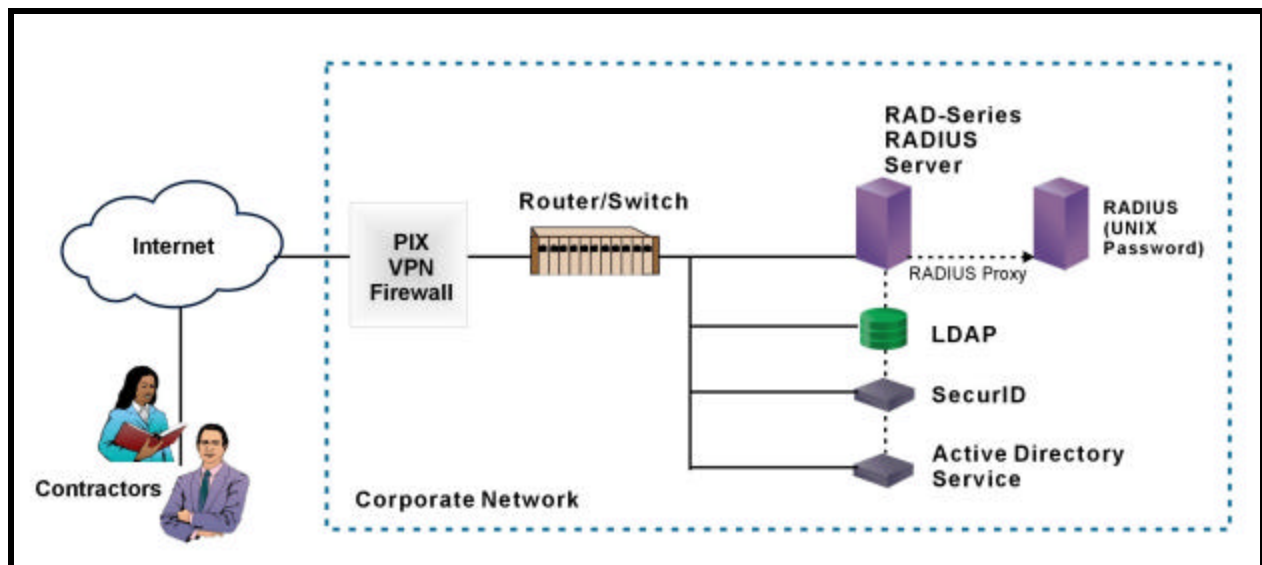
Banking on Security



A major financial institution uses Interlink Networks' RAD-Series RADIUS Servers with its Advanced Policy Engine to authenticate thousands of contractors who connect to their network via a VPN. Through the RAD-Series, they control which users and applications can access the network, providing a secure end-to-end network environment that is easy to manage. The company takes full advantage of the features and extensibility of the RAD-Series servers, including wireless network security to make the most of their investment.

Project Overview

The goal for the project was to allow contractors to securely access certain bank systems via a VPN. The RADIUS servers provide the back-end authentication and authorization security functions. Their primary network infrastructure components include Cisco VPN concentrators and PIX firewalls.



"I wanted to bring in a full-featured RADIUS product which I thought could suit our long term needs as well as those of the current project, said the Senior Network Security Engineer. "The Interlink RADIUS product offered many key features that I found appealing."

- Senior Network Security Engineer

The Challenge

The challenge was finding a high-end RADIUS server that could run on Linux, authenticate against multiple data sources, interface seamlessly with a VPN, and offer custom policy controls for time-based access control. Freeware based offerings were no an option in the commercial environment because of the lack of support, service, and time required to compile, test, and deploy these rudimentary solutions.

The Solution

After investigating the features and extensibility of the RAD-Series RADIUS Server, IT Management understood how they could leverage the RAD-Series Advanced Policy features for other projects as well. They extended the application to include other firewall and network security devices that use RADIUS authentication and authorization to provide user credentials, passwords, specific account information and status.

The RAD-Series also supported their wireless LAN initiative with 802.1x authentication via a EAP. The RAD-Series provided session configuration enhancements for advanced access control and data security.

Why Interlink Networks?

The bank chose the RAD-Series RADIUS servers for the following key features:

- **Advanced Policy Engine.** The RAD-Series Advanced Policy Engine makes it easy to administer, manage, and control access to network resources. The IT team wanted to implement policy controls to restrict each contractor to the network based on certain time-of-day requirements, maximum session times, and network usage.
- **The Ability to Choose Multiple Data Sources for Authentication.** Since the IT team never knows in advance what they might be told to authenticate against on new projects, this flexibility was key. The RAD-Series server supports Kerberos, LDAP, RADIUS proxy, UNIX password, RSA SecurID, and MS Active Directory databases
- **Linux Platform Support.** The IT team has based their entire security platform on Linux for which the RAD-Series is ideally suited.
- **Tunnel Authorization and Extensive VSA (Vendor-Specific Attributes) Support.** “Loads of features here, many very relevant to what I am trying to accomplish with the Cisco VPN equipment,” said the Senior Network Security Engineer. The RAD-Series servers authorize and configure tunnel users, and have a very flexible scheme to define VSAs.
- **Web-Based GUI.** The Web-based administrator simplifies server setup, maintenance, and monitoring. It is ideal for people who might not be familiar with command line configuration file editors.

"These key features, combined with a very responsive sales staff, made this product decision one of the easier ones I have made."

Smart Investment Pays Off

In the banking world, financial discipline and making good long-term investments are the main business, and IT equipment purchases are no exception. Interlink Networks RAD-Series RADIUS servers delivered a highly secure, highly controllable, and easy to maintain corporate network.

Interlink's extremely flexible RAD-Series RADIUS Server provided the policy capability and extensibility to meet the bank's short term and long term network security needs.



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Interlink Networks delivers the most powerful, robust, and scalable RADIUS server solutions on the market. Since 1991, our RAD-Series Servers have provided access management solutions to some of the largest Carrier and Service Providers around the world.

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