



Avenda Systems Ships Industry's First Network Access Security Platform With Integrated Policy Simulation for Painless Deployments

Flagship eTIPS Platform Includes Enhanced Access Control Features Integrating Policies Across Microsoft NAP and the Cisco Identity Framework

Santa Clara, California - January 20, 2009 – Avenda Systems, the innovator in identity-based networking security, announced the latest version of its core eTIPS software, featuring enhanced policy verification and deployment capabilities. Avenda's Policy Simulation Engine enables policy audits prior to enforcement ensuring that new services do not disrupt network operations. Other new built-in features include enhanced multi-OS health verifiers for Microsoft NAP, extensive policy models for guest and non-employee access, and comprehensive coverage of unmanaged devices (laptops, iPhones, Smartphones, IP Phones, printers, etc.). These new enhancements further leverage features within Cisco's Common Identity Framework to enable seamless network access for all users and endpoint types.

"Managing network security policies is difficult enough without tight budgets and shortages of resources. Now that employees, partners, and visitors all coexist on the same network, a unified solution for security policy management is prudent and a clear best practice. A policy platform like Avenda's eTIPS, which is able to provide broad, enterprise-class unified access control, is a required building block," said Joel Snyder of Opus One, a leading NAC expert and researcher.

Streamlining deployments by natively integrating capabilities, eTIPS eliminates the need for multiple devices and their respective policy management silos. For instance, eTIPS has built-in RADIUS and TACACS+ servers, inherent 802.1X support, captive guest access portal, network port and vulnerability scanning engines, and APIs for third-party health plug-ins. Integration lowers total cost of ownership (TCO), improves help desk response time, increases administrative efficiencies, and eases regulatory compliance burdens. Additionally, eTIPS' Policy Manager, accessed via any browser eliminates configuration complexity, while delivering cost savings and deployment flexibility through an intuitive "workflow" model.

Santhosh Cheeniyil, VP of Engineering at Avenda, commented, "We provide a unique advantage compared to competing products by allowing non-disruptive phased deployments using a single policy platform. An organization can start with secure guest or employee wireless access, and pervasively extend the unified and auditable policies throughout the organization across all connection methods."

This latest release (version 2.0) of the eTIPS 5000 platform has completed successful pilots and is available for immediate shipment. At one specific pilot, a large financial services institution is using eTIPS to implement Microsoft NAP across their entire organization of 5,000 Windows and Linux users and to control administrator access privileges to their network equipment, something not possible using their existing Cisco ACS solution.

About Avenda Systems

Avenda is committed to securely connecting users to networks by simplifying the deployment of security policies for organization-wide authentication, authorization and posture assessment. Guest Access and employee centric solutions are available for Enterprises, Financial Services, Healthcare, Education and Government verticals. For further information: www.avendasys.com