



## Advantages of Managed Security Services

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Cloud services via MPLS networks for high security at low cost

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### Executive Summary

#### Protecting your Network and Information Assets

Today's distributed organizations are struggling with the increasing sophistication, proliferation and severity of network security threats. Malware is a daily issue.

With security protection from MPLS-based Managed Security Services (MSS), companies can have cloud-based network protection around-the-clock against individual and blended threats without incurring the distraction, expense and complexity of in-house systems and support staff. Cloud-based MSS are particularly effective for stopping malicious traffic before it consumes the bandwidth of a network's last mile circuit, a job that can't be done with a premise-based solution alone.

A primary reason MPLS has evolved over the past decade into today's leading WAN VPN technology is that it enables fully managed, cost-effective and comprehensive unified threat management. Such services have been well designed by managed services providers (MSPs) to meet current and future security challenges, including attack mitigation, anti-malware and web filtering.

The bottom-line opportunity is for better network security at a lower cost utilizing cloud-based Managed Security Services from MPLS-based MSPs that deliver:

- Fully hosted, managed solutions with no customer premise equipment (CPE)
- Standards compliancy, such as PCI
- Proactive network monitoring
- Deep and broad security protection



### Today's Network Security Challenges

Malicious traffic – including viruses, spyware, worms and service attacks – is malware, a constant threat to a company's network, data, time and employee productivity. Because it is nearly impossible to stop malware, and the varieties of it proliferate on the internet, there is constant risk to your computers, data, and critical applications. As these threats continue to grow in sophistication and severity, they can become a major organizational challenge. Dedicated IT staff for any technical operations issues is in short supply, and companies with

fewer than 50 employees, it is not common to employ a dedicated IT staff person. While the average 100 employee company has two IT staffers, even companies with up to 999 employees have no security specialists on staff. For all of these organizations, security threats present real problems, including:

- Complying with security, regulatory and legislative initiatives
- The growing costs, complexity and expertise needed to protect data assets
- The need for 24x7x365 proactive support from a dedicated technical staff

In addition, inappropriate web surfing in the workplace is an unacceptable use of company resources that lowers productivity, puts pressure on network resource availability, and creates potential legal liability.

## Managed Security Services in the Cloud

With protection from cloud-based Managed Security Services (MSS) via MPLS network based MSPs, companies can get around-the-clock network protection against individual and blended threats without incurring the distraction, expense and complexity of in-house systems or security staff. Cloud-based MSS is particularly effective for stopping malicious traffic before it consumes the bandwidth of a network's last mile circuit, a job that can't be done with a premise-based solution alone.

Managed Security Services are hosted solutions that require no customer premise equipment (CPE) – relieving customer IT organizations of the burden of buying, deploying and managing firewalls, anti-spam and a host of associated security functions. Offering more protection than premise-based solutions can provide alone and requiring no additional equipment or staff, managed security services via MPLS networks include:

- **Managed Firewalls** that detect and block suspicious network traffic
- **Proactive Intrusion Prevention** against known and emerging threats
- **Anti-Virus/Anti-Spyware** with comprehensive real-time network protection
- **Spam Tracking** that detects and manages spam on end-user desktops
- **Web Filtering** for managing employee Internet access with white list/black list and content filtering

Managed Security Services increase company productivity by reducing wasted time and resources, stopping unwanted traffic before it enters the access circuit by blocking spam, network-based attacks, and bandwidth-consuming traffic from worms and non-productive web surfing.



### IT Staff Stats that Matter

*33% of small business identified 'information security' as their top IT priority, while that figure increased to 48% amongst midsize companies (source: 2009 CDW Year-In-Review industry survey)*

### Did you know?

*Mitigating a virus infection or outbreak requires 2.7 hours of IT staff time per security-related event*

*When that attack occurs in a non-hosted environment, the same security event requires 14% more time to fix.*

# Role of the MPLS Network in Managed Security Services Delivery

## A Catalyst for Convergence

MegaPath owns and operates a fiber optic core network that has run MPLS since 1999. The MegaPath network serves over 20,000 customers and 70,000 endpoints with an MPLS-based Tier 1, all-optical IP network. MegaPath operates approximately 30 network points-of-presence (POPs), all located in fault-tolerant, carrier-grade facilities. The POPs are interconnected to the network via multiple optical circuits (OCx) for complete redundancy.

All-optical switching technology allows coast-to-coast “single hop” networking for on-net traffic, significantly reducing latency as traffic traverses the network. With a redundant path for every connection, traffic is instantaneously re-routed in the event of a network failure, ensuring uninterrupted high-quality service.

The end result is a powerful, business-class MPLS core network that provides secure multi-site and remote access connections to empower today’s distributed enterprises with converged IP data, voice and video services.

With network connectivity from MegaPath available in a variety of access speeds –DSL, T1, business Ethernet – SMBs can select the right speed for the locations they are serving. MegaPath has an unrivaled national broadband network footprint that ensures customers always get the right connection at the best price.

Furthermore, our network is protected at a global level from large-scale threats (including zero-day attacks) by a partnership with Fortinet, a world leader in unified threat management.

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## Managed Security Services: Protection in the Cloud

Managed Security Services (MSS) from MegaPath deliver comprehensive Unified Threat Management through the network cloud. Built on the company’s network of carrier-class gateways, MegaPath Managed Security works as a complete solution – or complements existing premise-based security equipment – with a multi-layer security approach that safeguards network and business-critical systems by blocking malicious traffic before it consumes the bandwidth of a network’s last-mile circuit.

## A Fully Managed and Integrated Solution

Turnkey solutions should allow customers to protect their business assets and meet the requirements of regulatory and legislative security initiatives. Any combination of MegaPath

Managed Security Services can be seamlessly integrated to simplify and unify security management and lower the cost of securing networks.

Multiple redundant Network and Security Operations Centers provide the capability and assurance for MSS service's proactive monitoring of customers' networks. MegaPath MSS complies with selected industry-specific standards – such as PCI for payment card processing – and offers exceptional depth and breadth of security features.

MegaPath services reduce network complexity and provide easy and secure access to increasingly mobile workforces. A unified approach delivers more protection than premise-based solutions can provide alone and requires no additional equipment or staff. MegaPath implements, hosts and monitors solutions around the clock, 24x7x365 – all for one predictable monthly flat fee.

## Multi-Layer Security Approach

Look for a comprehensive multi-layer security approach that minimizes downtime from individual threats, reduces risks with blended threats, and coordinates security alerting, logging, and reporting. Service components should include:

- **Managed Firewall**
- **Proactive Intrusion Prevention**
- **Anti-Virus/Anti-Spyware**
- **Spam Tracker**
- **Web Filtering**

## Managed Firewall

A robust firewall is imperative for any business network as a first line of defense against intrusions and other threats. The MegaPath Managed Firewall filters network traffic, allowing good traffic to pass while blocking potentially harmful traffic. This cost-effective, managed solution protects against unauthorized users, dangerous protocols and common network layer attacks without any impact on network performance.

MegaPath Managed Firewall is available in Basic Firewall for small businesses and branch offices and Advanced Firewall configurations for medium to large businesses. If a company already has a firewall onsite, MegaPath managed services can work in conjunction with the existing firewall and equipment, giving additional protection a firewall alone doesn't provide.

## Intrusion Prevention

With the increased complexity and sophistication of today's security threats, a firewall is not enough to keep today's networks safe. The MegaPath Intrusion Prevention service constantly

monitors network traffic for any potential threats to network data. Leveraging a continually updated IPS signature database, MegaPath provides real-time, reliable protection from network and application attacks such as worms, viruses, Trojans, DoS, DDoS, SQL injections, and other blended threats – without any degradation of network performance.

The Intrusion Prevention service blocks known attacks that don't violate protocol standards or behavioral rules but carry malicious content. It offers proactive protection against zero day attacks and eliminates the window of vulnerability for new and emerging threats when signatures are not available.

## Spam Tracker

Detecting and managing spam is a constant problem for businesses. It's a burden to employees, resulting in lost productivity and frustration. It also clogs email servers, slows network performance, and increases management costs associated with storing and maintaining unwanted email.

The MegaPath Spam Tracker service automatically detects and manages spam in real-time on end-user desktops and laptops. Once the spam is identified and tagged, it can be directed to a separate email folder, saving your employees time and your business money.

## Anti-Virus/Anti-Spyware

MegaPath Anti-Virus/Spyware service provides real-time protection against worms and spyware from both inbound and outbound security threats. MegaPath leverages a continuously updated list of anti-virus signatures to provide multi-layer defense from known viruses as well as new, unique outbreaks. We provide predictive defenses and complementary responsive techniques to stop these threats as soon as they emerge on the Internet.

MegaPath Anti-Virus/Spyware service stops unwanted malware before it reaches a network. It minimizes network disruptions from virus and worm outbreaks and responds more effectively to fast-spreading attacks than traditional point and host security solutions. Even if an organization already has an Anti-Virus client deployed, an extra layer of security provides better protection from malicious traffic.

## Web Filtering

An easy way to enforce Internet usage policies, MegaPath Web Filtering service is continually updated to ensure policies include the latest threat protections. The service includes:

- **Content Filtering:** Blocks access to Internet sites by category content
- **White List / Black List Filtering:** Allows or denies access to selected web sites.

Separately or in tandem, these services help organizations achieve a balance between managing employee Internet access and enforcing Internet use policies. The result is improved employee productivity, decreased risk of legal liability from employee Internet activity, and optimal use of IT resources.

## Personal Protection Suite

MegaPath's Personal Protection Suite provides managed protection for a company's entire

distributed workforce by defending and protecting all computers and corporate resources from malicious attacks with the following layers of fully managed security on all the devices that connect to a company's network:

- Personal Firewall with Intrusion Prevention/Detection
- Virus Prevention
- Spyware Prevention
- Memory Protection

The MegaPath Personal Protection Suite provides industry-leading security features and the benefits of a fully managed service. There's no equipment to buy – so no capital expenses – and only a nominal recurring fee. MegaPath provides installation, configuration and deployment support, as well as ongoing management and maintenance, including automatic updates. This highly secure, fully managed and integrated solution saves time, money and IT resources while reducing the number of threats to your network.

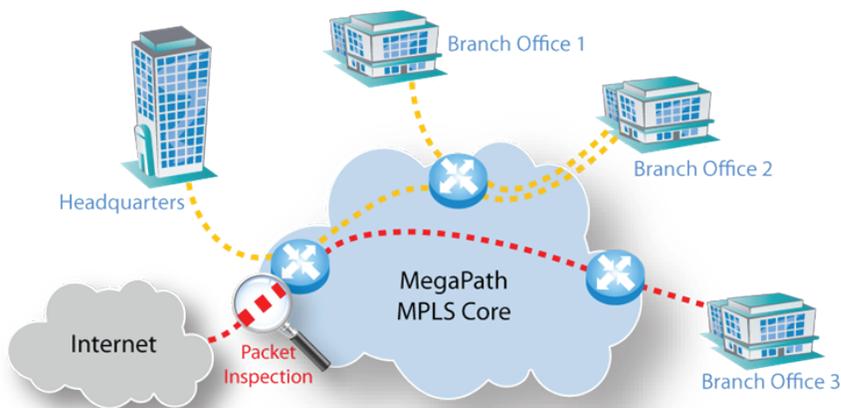


## Implementation Methods

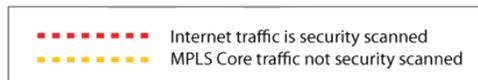
MegaPath offers two MSS implementation methods.

### MegaPath MSS Gateway

The MSS Gateway is based on the MegaPath MPLS network, using a security device as the Internet egress point (see diagram). MegaPath configures the network to filter and scan the inbound and outbound Internet traffic. However, site-to-site traffic within the MPLS network is not scanned. With MSS Gateway, customers may log onto the portal to view regular reports.



MegaPath Managed Security Service



## MegaPath MSS Access

The **MSS Access** solution is based on the MegaPath on-net DSL, T1 or Bonded T1 service. During the provisioning process, MegaPath maps the customer's MSS order to the pre-defined module. Customers receive a welcome letter with information and credentials to access the customer portal. With MSS Access, customers log onto the portal to activate the service and manage its profiles for firewall rules and white list / black list.

If a customer adds MSS to an existing access service, MegaPath will provision MSS and send a provisioning completion letter to the customer who would follow the same process described above to utilize the service. Once defined, MegaPath monitors and manages the service 24x7. It's that easy.

Furthermore, customers may return to the portal any time to update profiles or generate on-demand reports. Reports are sent to the designed email address for viewing and storage.

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## Managed Security Service Advantages

### Provides a smart investment in cost and risk avoidance

The MegaPath solution filters inbound and outbound Internet traffic at the network edge, thereby protecting all devices on the network, not just computers. It provides an extra layer of security – in addition to security programs that may be installed on individual computers – to protect companies from viruses, spyware, attacks and visits to unauthorized web sites.

### Reduces wasted time and resources

MegaPath tags spam and proactively blocks network-based attacks, viruses, worms and non-productive web surfing, providing detailed reports on all security-related network activity.

### Reduces liability

By preventing access to illegal and harmful web sites, potential liability is reduced.

### Saves money

MegaPath eliminates the need for dedicated hardware and specialized security staff, while reducing the need for traditional security skill sets. By reducing bandwidth consumption, MegaPath Managed Security Service can subsequently reduce required bandwidth, while increasing uptime and employee productivity.

### MegaPath Managed Security Services Benefits

- Turn-key deployment means no additional equipment or staff needed
- Reduces network complexity by eliminating multiple point solutions
- Lowers total cost of network ownership
- Protects business continuity, company assets and brand reputation
- Helps maintain compliance with government regulations
- Improves network uptime and performance via 24x7x365 proactive monitoring and management
- Reduces threat gap via rapid threat solution discovery, development and automatic updates
- Protects all devices on the network, not just computers
- Increases productivity by blocking spam and non-productive web surfing
- Eliminates upgrading firewall firmware and Anti-Virus/Intrusion subscriptions

### Notable Advantages

- Continually updated signature lists and databases provide aggressive threat identification and elimination
- Comprehensive on-demand reporting helps develop best practices and security policies



### Next Steps

To learn more about MegaPath Managed Security Services (MSS) solutions, go to: <http://www.megapath.com/managed-security/>

## About MegaPath Inc.

MegaPath is the leading provider of managed IP communications services in North America. MegaPath leverages its wide selection of broadband connectivity, Virtual Private Networks (VPN), Voice over IP (VoIP) and security technologies to enable businesses to lower costs, increase security and enhance productivity. Organizations of all sizes can easily and securely communicate between their headquarters, branch offices, retail locations, mobile workers, and business partners.



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