

Net Results

3.8 RATING

Check Point VPN-1

Company: Check Point Software Technologies, (800) 429-4391, www.checkpoint.com **Price:** Starting at \$11,000. **Pros:** Strong VPN and firewall collocation; good interoperability. **Cons:** High cost; requires underlying NT or Unix operating systems.

3.8 RATING

Cisco 7140 VPN Router

Company: Cisco, (408) 526-7200, www.cisco.com **Price:** \$18,500. **Pros:** Many interfaces; broad product line; excellent routing. **Cons:** High cost; poor management tools; not very flexible IPsec implementation.

3.8 RATING

Lucent Access Point 1000

Company: Lucent, (888) 458-2368, www.lucent.com **Price:** Starting at \$20,500. **Pros:** Excellent performance; high-end QoS and firewall built in; multiple interface options. **Cons:** Command line interface better than GUI; high cost; some IPsec weaknesses.

3.8 RATING

Nokia CryptoCluster 2500

Company: Nokia, (877) 997-9199, www.nokia.com/vpn/nokiavpn.html **Price:** \$10,000. **Pros:** Excellent VPN management tools, strong interoperability. **Cons:** High price/performance in our test.

3.7 RATING

Avaya VSU-100

Company: Avaya, (908) 953-6000, www.avaya.com **Price:** \$1,400 (hardware) plus \$1,000 (VPNmanager 3.1, software). **Pros:** Strong management tools for companies. **Cons:** Mediocre performance in our test.

3.6 RATING

Cisco PIX 525

Company: Cisco, (408) 526-7200, www.cisco.com **Price:** Starting at \$22,000. **Pros:** Very good NAT/NAPT features, firewall. **Cons:** High cost; poor management tools; not very flexible IPsec implementation.

3.4 RATING

Microsoft Windows 2000 Server

Company: Microsoft, (650) 251-2700, www.microsoft.com **Price:** \$850. **Pros:** Very good price/performance; strong interoperability. **Cons:** Disjointed VPN management interface.

3.4 RATING

Nortel Contivity 1600

Company: Nortel, (800)466-7835, www.nortelnetworks.com **Price:** \$7,000. **Pros:** Good GUI for single element; well-thought-out client deployment. **Cons:** Low performance in this unit; no enterprise management tool.

3.1 RATING

Secure Computing Sidewinder Firewall/VPN

Company: Secure Computing, (800) 692-5625, www.securecomputing.com **Price:** \$3,900. **Pros:** Strong interoperability, good price/performance in our test. **Cons:** Fairly complex management on compartmentalized Unix operating system.

3.0 RATING

HP VPN Server Appliance

Company: Hewlett-Packard, (800) 826-4111, www.hp.com **Price:** \$16,158. **Pros:** Easy to configure with flexible options; good client deployment tool. **Cons:** Odd IPsec configuration required.

2.8 RATING

RapidStream 2000

Company: RapidStream, (866) 727-4348, www.rapidstream.com **Price:** \$5,000. **Pros:** Good price/performance. **Cons:** Initial implementation not very stable.

2.7 RATING

WatchGuard Firebox III 4500

Company: WatchGuard, (206) 521-8340, www.watchguard.com **Price:** \$9,990. **Pros:** Good fit-for-all WatchGuard network; excellent VPN monitoring tools. **Cons:** Poor security choices in IPsec; limited implementation not very flexible.

N/A RATING

RedCreek Communications Ravlin 7160

Company: RedCreek Communications, (888) 745-3900, www.redcreek.com **Price:** \$8,900. **Pros:** Simple to install and configure; nice GUI for single element. **Cons:** No global management tool; hardware reliability issues.

What's the score?													
	VPN-1	Cisco 7140 Router	Access Point 1000	Crypto Cluster 2500	VSU-100	PIX 525	Windows 2000 Server	Contivity 1600	Sidewinder	VPN Server Appliance	Rapid-Stream 2000	Firebox III 4500	Ravlin 7160
Management 30%	4	3.5	3	4.5	4.5	3.5	3	2.5	2	2.5	2	3	2
Interoperability 25%	4	4	3.5	4	4	4	4	4	4	2.5	2.5	1.5	3
Enterprise features 20%	4	4.5	4.5	3	3	3.5	3	4.5	3	3.5	3	3	2.5
Performance 15%	3.5	2.5	4.5	3.5	2.5	3	4	2.5	4	3.5	3.5	3	N/A
Breadth of product line 10%	3	4.4	4	3.5	4	3.5	3	3.5	3	3.5	4	3.5	3.5
TOTAL SCORE	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.1	3	2.8	2.7	N/A

Individual category scores are based on a scale of 1 to 5. Percentages are the weight given each category in determining the total score. ■ **Scoring Key:** 5: Exceptional showing in this category. Defines the standard of excellence. 4: Very good showing. Although there may be room for improvement, this product was much better than the average. 3: Average showing in this category. Product was neither especially good nor exceptionally bad. 2: Below average. Lacked some features or lower performance than other products or than expected. 1: Consistently subpar, or lacking features being reviewed.