# INGATE KNOWLEDGE BASE

**Ingate Knowledge Base - a vast resource for information about all things SIP – including security, VoIP, SIP trunking etc. - just for the reseller community.** *Drill down for more info!*

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## the importance of an Ingate Solution

In the last Ingate Knowledge Base, we discussed what Network Address Translation (NAT) is, its purpose on the network and why this is a problem when adopting SIP in the enterprise.  In this issue, we will look at how Ingate SIP-capable security products solve the issues with NAT and do so while maintaining security.

Ingate Firewalls and SIParators perform three very important functions.  These functions are critical for any SIP implementation – including SIP trunking -- and may provide other benefits as well depending on the construction of the network and the service that the business wishes to employ.  The following are the most important of these functions (all of which will be explored in greater depth in future issues):

a. The Ingate SIParator or Firewall **resolves NAT traversal issues** and enables the adoption of SIP and SIP trunking by securely permitting SIP signaling and related media to traverse the firewall.  Without this function, most companies will have one-way audio only.
b. The Ingate products also **normalize the SIP Traffic** so that the IP-PBX at the customer site, and the service provider's network are fully compatible.  While SIP is a standard, each implementation can be slightly different, and the service providers may each require a different level of authentication from the business.  With the Ingate in place, these requirements can be met.
c. **Security** becomes important with the introduction of SIP trunking and other SIP services because as a server, the IP-PBX is subject to the same types of threats as any other server on the enterprise network.  So the properly architected network will include an Ingate device to assure that only authorized users are allowed to send and/or receive phone calls using the service, and that no malicious attacks are launched which could render the IP-PBX inoperable.

## Want more information

Follow the link to find out more

http://www.ingate.com/files/Solving_Firewall-NAT_Traversal.pdf

## Next week

Digging Deeper: How Ingate Resolves NAT Issues