

INGATE KNOWLEDGE BASE

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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 introduction of SIP to a network brings the challenge of protecting the network from an untrusted network, and the opportunity to manage the routing of calls to a degree not possible with traditional telephony. This instalment of our continuing Knowledge Base will review some of the things that can be configured with an Ingate Enterprise Session Border Controller to address both the challenges and opportunities.

More on SIP Solutions: Ingate, Asterisk and Cisco Call Manager

Last issue we talked about how Ingate differs from other SIP solutions. We'll continue that discussion, focusing on how Ingate works differently from Asterisk and other options.

Asterisk

Asterisk-based IP-PBX servers, such as SwitchVox, Fonality and more, all have the ability to physically sit on the Internet and provide a SIP solution, or sit behind a NAT firewall and Port Forward a range of ports to overcome NAT issues. As discussed this is not a secure SIP architecture; this setup leaves the network vulnerable to malicious attacks.

Although this approach may seem cost efficient, putting a "Mission Critical" server directly in the path of those who will take advantage is never an acceptable risk – especially in an enterprise environment.

A proven workaround is to have an Ingate provide security for these Asterisks servers, to protect against malicious efforts.

Cisco CM

Cisco Call Manager has the ability to connect to an ITSP, but requires the use of a Cisco ASA, PIX or CUBE to resolve NAT issues with SIP. The Cisco ASA, PIX and CUBE are firewalls with security features but are tailored to work only with the Cisco CM. The Ingate has these capabilities (and more), and can work with any number of IP-PBXs in addition to the Cisco Call Manager.

Ingate is designed as a very flexible and robust product with the ability to secure and complement the installation of any IP-PBX. With Ingate you get assured interoperability with any service provider and a secure means of enabling SIP communications.

We would like to hear from you.

Let us know of any topics you'd like to see addressed in future issues of the Knowledge Base series by writing to sofia@ingate.com or steve@ingate.com.

WANT MORE INFORMATION

Follow the link to find out more

http://www.ingate.com/appnotes/Ingate_Security_Best_Practices.pdf

NEXT WEEK

Ingate and Microsoft OCS

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