Cisco Secure Network Analytics Visibility Detection Response

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Author and Collaboration – Security Consultant

Agenda:

- 1. Visibiltiy Overview
- 2. Cisco Secure Network Analytics architecture
- 3. Host Group and Layer Detection
- 4. Encrypted Traffic Analysis (ETA)
- 5. Integration with Cisco ISE
- 6. Global Threat Alerts



Visibility Overview

Network security is a constant war When defending against the enemy you must know your own territory and implement defense mechanisms in place.

We have data. So now what?

Security Policy

Analyse network behaviour to design, implement and validate security policy

Threat Detection

Analyse network behaviour to infer the presence of a threat actor

Firewall is there to protect your inside network from threats in internet. But misconfiguration and mistake is possible, how to detect it?

If a policy rules on firewall or WSA are changed which causes some rules placed on the top. How to detect this?

If an authorized server is used with stolen credentials and the attacker perfoms scanning and reconnaissance attack. How to detect this?

If you have a huge volume of exfiltration data. How to detect this?

If you are using DNS Layer security with Umbrella as the trusted DNS server, and users are using rogue DNS servers with risk of traffic redirection to malicious websites. How to detect this violation?

You want to build policy segmentation on firewalls and other security products but you dont want to disrupt critical business activities. How to to use policies without enforcing them?

You want to detect malware in encrypted traffic without decryption while maintaining Data Integrity.

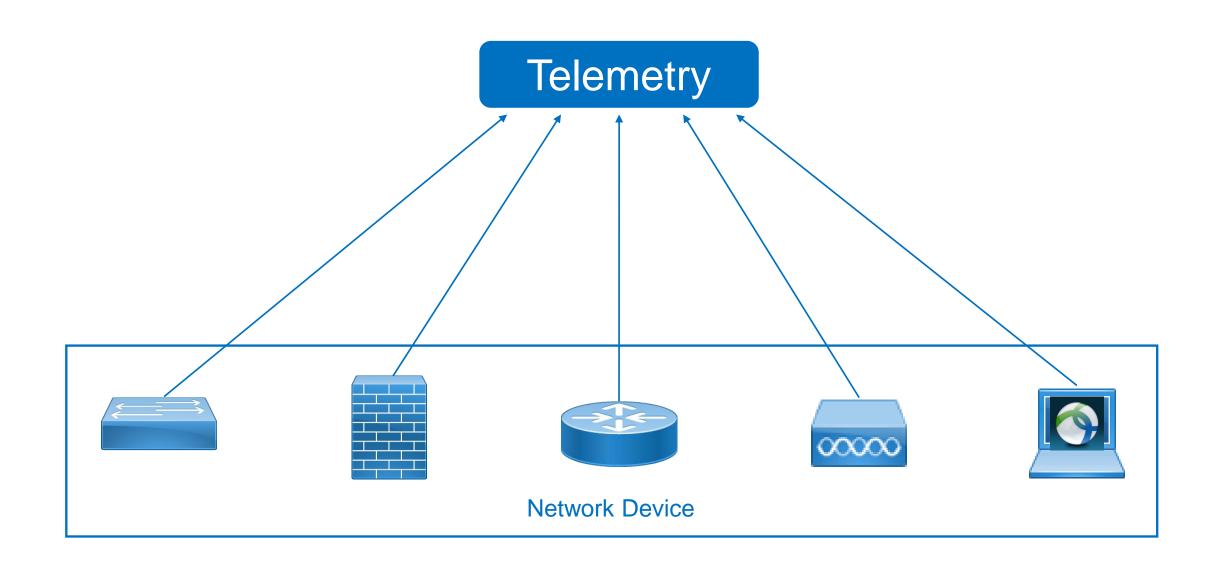
How to do this?

Cisco Visibility Solution

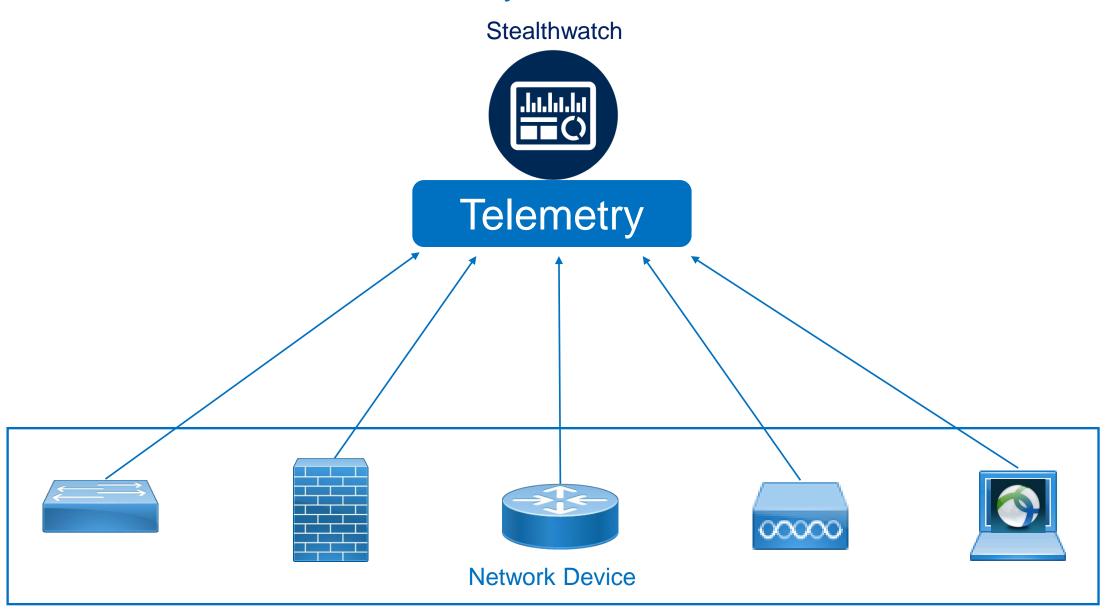
Cisco Secure Network Analytics (Formerly Stealthwatch)

2015 – Acquisition of Lancope

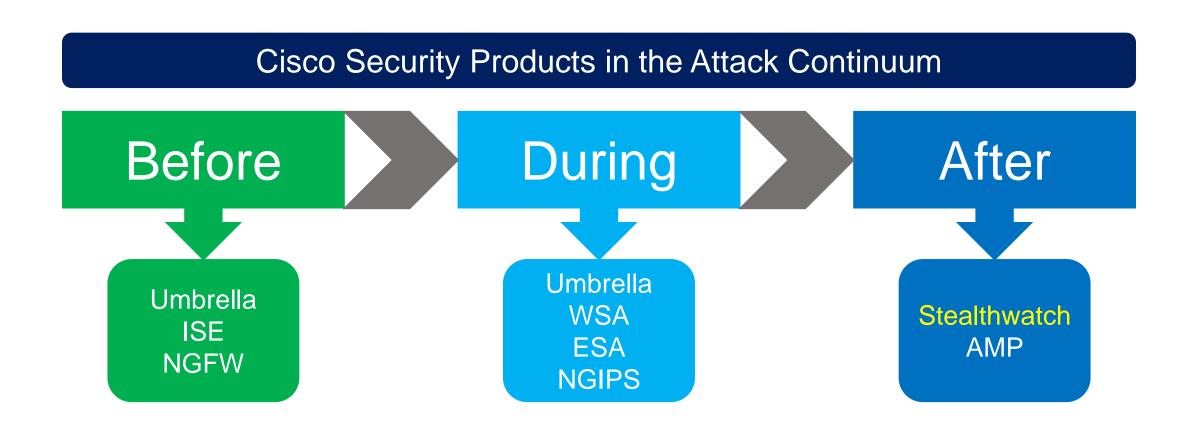
Telemetry with NetFlow



Telemetry with NetFlow



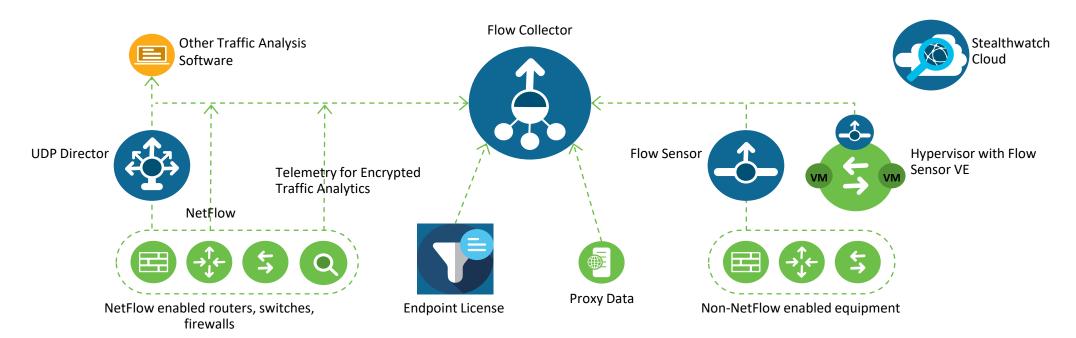
Cisco SNA and Attack Continuum



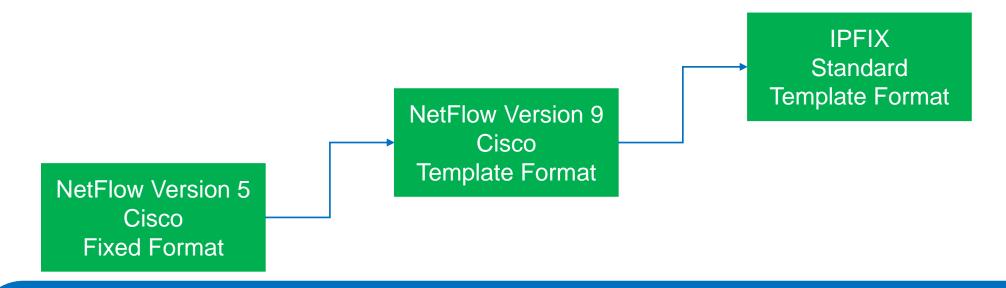
Stealthwatch Enterprise architecture

Comprehensive visibility and security analytics





Versions of NetFlow

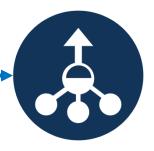


Guidelines

- Enable NetFlow on Access Layer. East-West and North-South (Internet) Visibility.
- Move NetFlow to the distribution layer if NetFlow is not supported in the access layer.
- Enable NetFlow on the WAN and Internet Edge routers.
- Enable NetFlow on Cisco Wireless LAN Controllers.
- Enable NBAR on routers and switchers to provide layer 7 informations.
- Integrate Cisco ISE to provide user identity.

Stealthwatch: What defines a Flow





Required fields:

- Source IP Address
- Source Port
- Destination IP Address
- Destination Port
- •IP Protocol
- Byte count
- Packet count
- Start time
- End time
- •Input Interface

NetFlow in Cisco portfolio

Switch

Catalyst 2960-X (v9/IPFIX)

Catalyst 3650/3850(v9/IPFIX)

Catalyst 4500E(v9/IPFIX)

Catalyst 6500E (v9/IPFIX)

Catalyst 6800 (v9/IPFIX)

Catalyst 9200 (v9/IPFIX)

Catalyst 9300/9400 (v9/IPFIX ETA)

Catalyst 9500 (v9/IPFIX ETA)

Catalyst 9600 (v9/IPFIX ETA)

IE3000 (v9/IPFIX)

IE4000 (v9/IPFIX)

IE5000(v9/IPFIX)

Router

Cisco ISR 4000(v9/IPFIX ETA)

Cisco CSR 1000v (v9/IPFIX ETA)

Cisco ASR 1000 (v9/IPFIX ETA)

Cisco ASR 9000 (v9/IPFIX)

Cisco WLC 5520, 8510, 8540 (v9 Fixed)

Catalyst 9800 (v9/IPFIX ETA)

Firewall

ASA 5500-X (NSEL)

FTD (NSEL)

Data Center Switch

Nexus 1000v (v9/IPFIX)

Nexus 7000 (M Series I/O modules –(v9/IPFIX)

Nexus 7000 (F Series I/O modules –(v9/IPFIX sampled)

Nexus 9000 Series (sFlow)

Nexus 9000 Series EX/FX (v9)

Servers, Software and Appliances

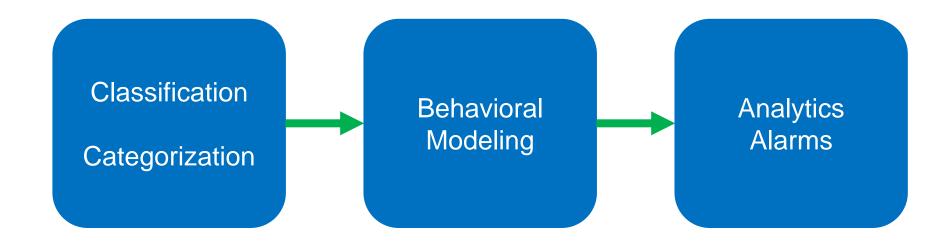
Cisco Stealthwatch Flow Sensor (v9/IPFIX ETA)

Cisco UCS VIC (v9/IPFIX)

Cisco AnyConnect Client (IPFIX)

Cisco Secure Network Analytics architecture

Cisco Secure Network Analytics Pipeline



Threat analytics detection and response

Contextual network-wide visibility



Using existing network infrastructure

Predictive threat analytics



Behavioral modeling



Machine learning



Global threat intelligence

Automated detection and response



Unknown threats



Insider threat



Encrypted malware



Policy violations

Cisco SNA Key Features

Visibility everywhere

Analyses enterprise telemetry from any source (NetFlow, IPFIX, sFlow, other Layer 7 protocols) across the extended network

Encrypted Traffic Analytics

Only product that can analyze encrypted traffic to detect malware and ensure policy compliance without decryption

Rapid Threat Containment

Quarantine infected hosts easily using the Identity Services Engine (ISE) integration, collect and store network audit trails for deeper forensic investigations

Unique threat detection

Combination of multi-layer machine learning and behavioral modeling provides the ability to detect inside as well as outside threats

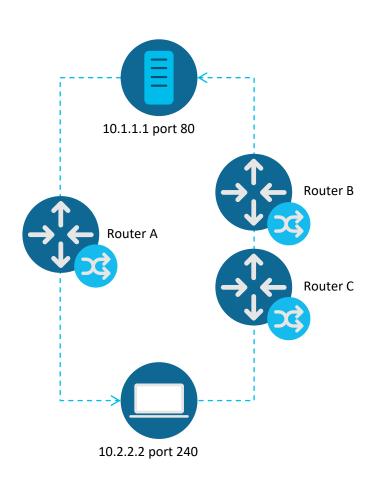
Smart segmentation

Create logical user groups that make sense for your business, monitor the effectiveness of segmentation policies through contextual alarms

Deduplication and Stitching



deduplication and stitching



Router A: 10.1.1.1:80 \rightarrow 10.2.2.2:1024

Router B: 10.2.2.2:1024 \rightarrow 10.1.1.1:80

Duplicates

Router C: 10.2.2.2:1024 \rightarrow 10.1.1.1:80

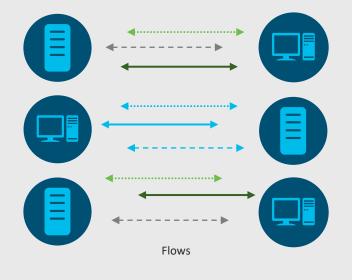
Deduplication

- Avoid false positives and misreported traffic volume
- Enable efficient storage of telemetry data
- Necessary for accurate host-level reporting
- No data is discarded

Anomaly detection using behavioral modeling

Collect and analyze telemetry

Comprehensive data set optimized to remove redundancies



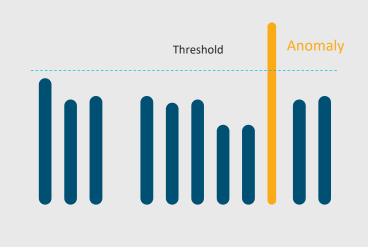
Create a baseline of normal behavior

Security events to detect anomalies and known bad behavior

Analysis of multiple threat behaviors		
Number of concurrent flows	New flows created	Number of SYNs received
Packet per second	Number of SYNs sent	Rate of connection resets
Bits per second	Time of day	Duration of the flow

Alarm on anomalies and behavioral changes

Alarm categories with threshold



Behavioral & Anomaly Detection Model

Note: Behavioral Algorithms are Applied to Build "Security Events"



Logical alarms based on suspicious events

Source or target of malicious behavior

Scanning, excessive network activity such as file copying or transfer, policy violation, etc.

Reconnaissance

Port scanning for vulnerabilities or running services

Command and Control

to an external remote controlling server through malware

DDoS Activity

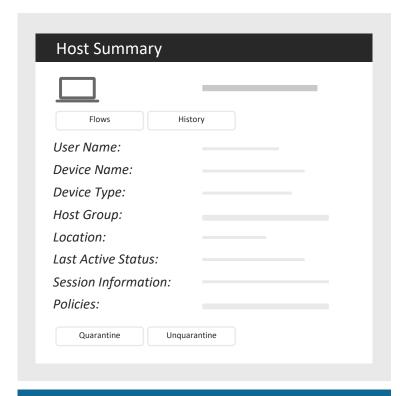
Sending or receiving SYN flood and other types of data floods Insider threats

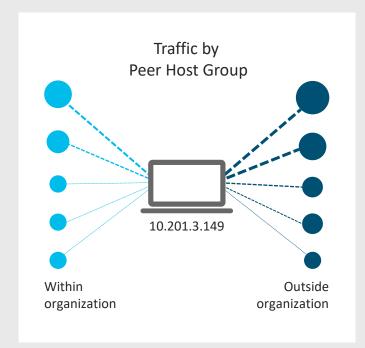
Data hoarding and data exfiltration

Concern Index Target Index Recon C&C Exploitation DDoS Source DDoS Target Data Hoarding Exfiltration Policy Violation Anomaly

4 0 6 0 3 0 1 4 3 1

Investigating a host







Summary of aggregated host information

Observed communication patterns

Historical alarming behavior

Host Group and Layer Detection

Host Classification



Network Analytics dcloud .

Host Group Management

Filter by Host Group Name

- - ▶ ✓ Inside Hosts · · ·
 - Outside Hosts •••
 - Authorized to Protected Assets •••
 - ▶ Bogon · · ·
 - Command & Control Servers •••
 - Tor • •

Inside Hosts

- All Hosts specifically defined as part of the network
- By Default –"Catch All"

Threats Intelligence

- All Hosts not specifically defined as part of the network
- Countries –GEO-IP

Outside Hosts

- Bogon
- Command & Control Servers

Layer Detection

On-Box **Custom Security Events** Relationship Events Core Events

Cloud Enabled Global Threat Alerts (Cognitive Intelligence) Threat Intelligence Secure Cloud Analytics

On-box Layer Detection

Custom Security Events

- User Defined Policy
- Generate an alarm based on flow attributes

Relationship Events

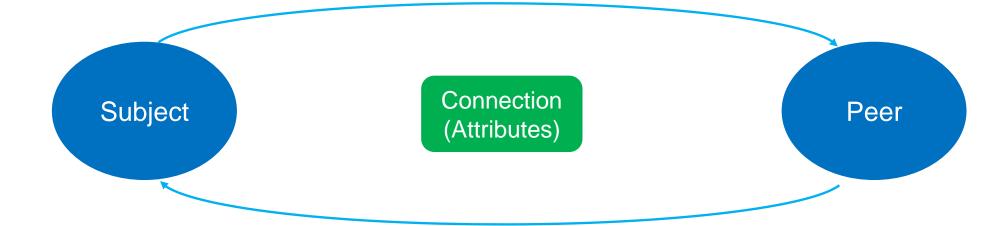
- Interaction between host groups that violate a policy setting like high volume traffic
- Directly created or automatically created from network diagram

Core Events

- Run on each flow collector
- 98+ tunable behavioural algorithms:
- Statistical anomaly detection
- Behavioral based detection

Custom Security Event

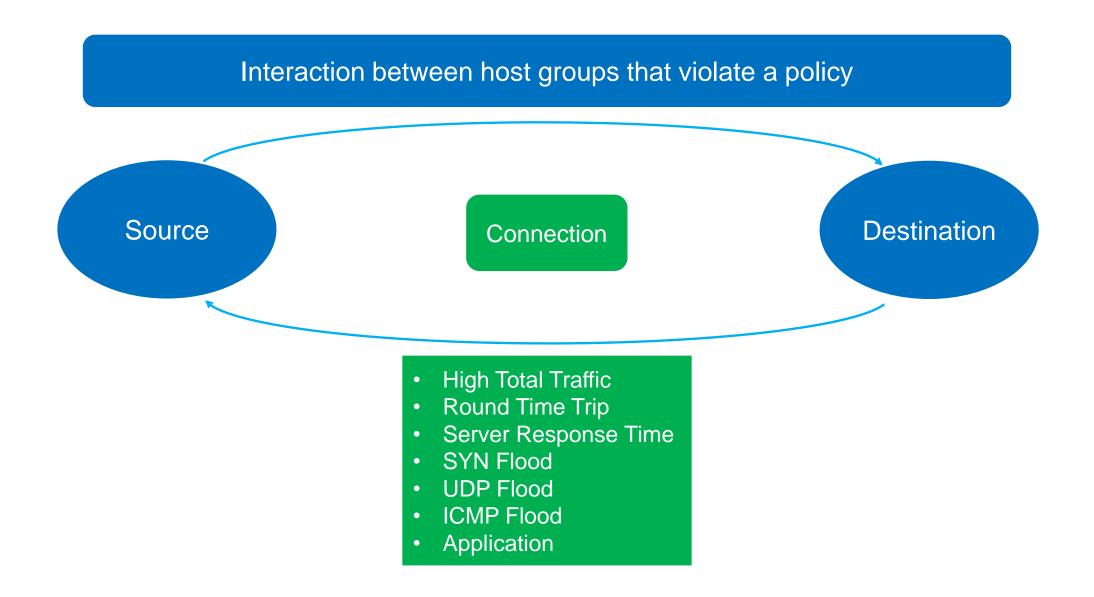
Generate an action when a single flow matches the selected conditions



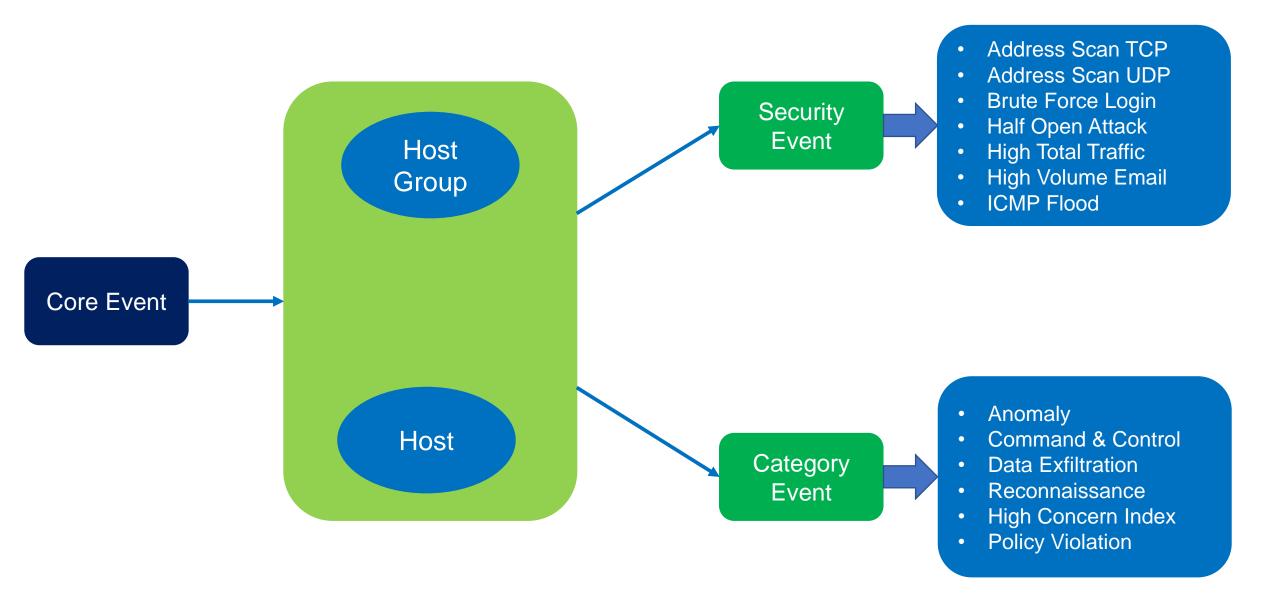
- Subject Port/protocol
- Subject Application
- Subject Byte
- Subject Users

- Peer Port/protocol
- Peer Application
- Peer Byte
- Peer Users
- Encryption TLS Version

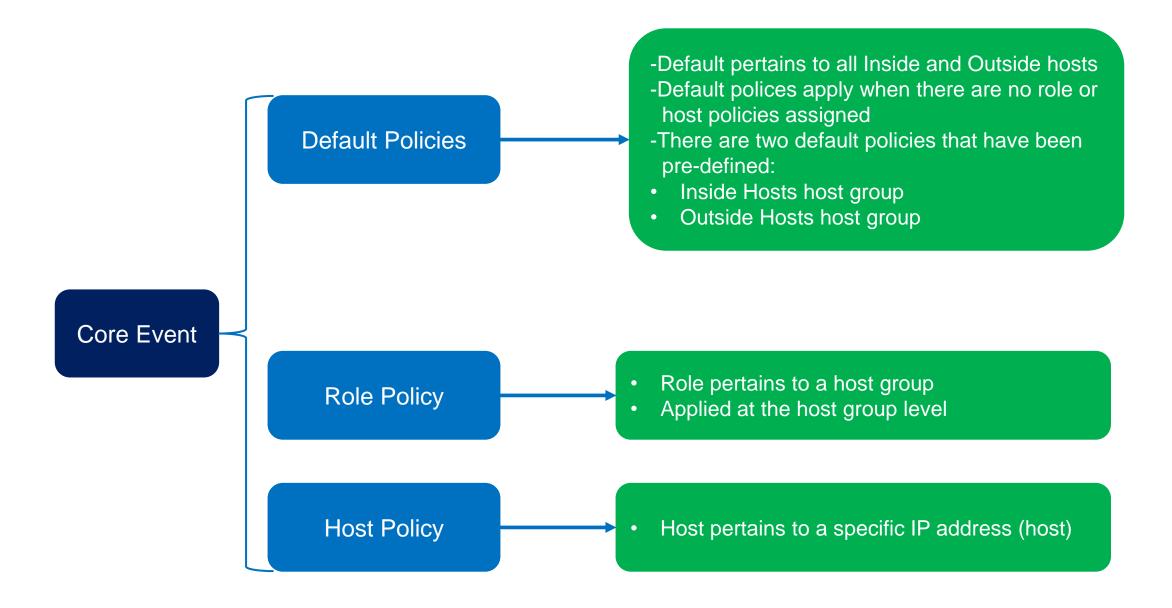
Relationship Event



Core Event

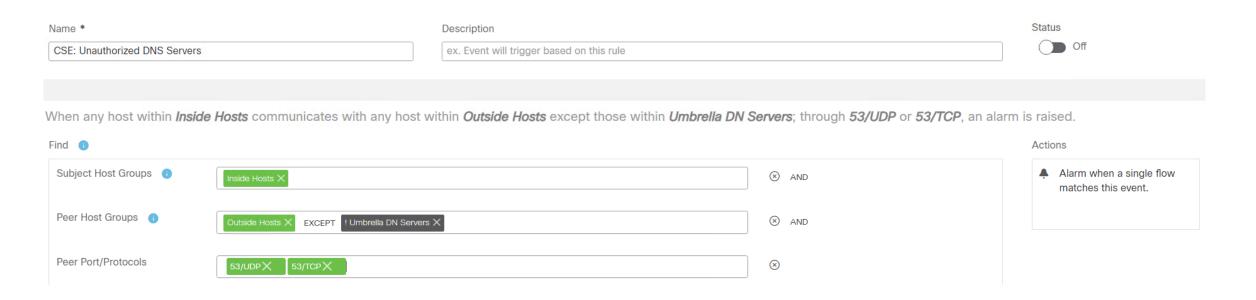


Core Event



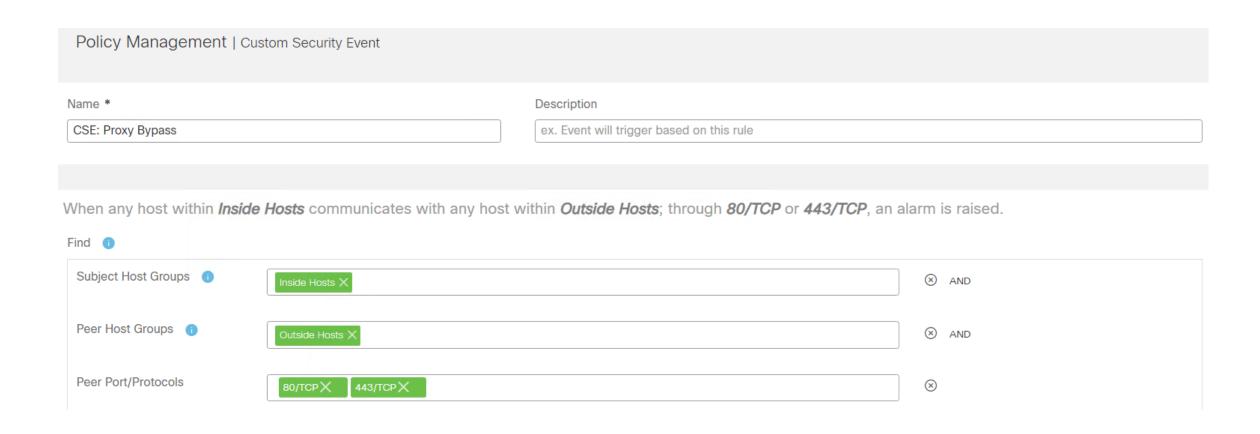
Custom Security Event Example

The reason you should be concerned about rogue DNS servers on your network is that they could redirect traffic from the intended hosts that a client is attempting to reach. For example, a user that is attempting to access Amazon.com could be redirected by a rogue DNS server to a phishing site that has been crafted to look like Amazon, thus potentially compromising their account. This is known as DNS Hijacking.

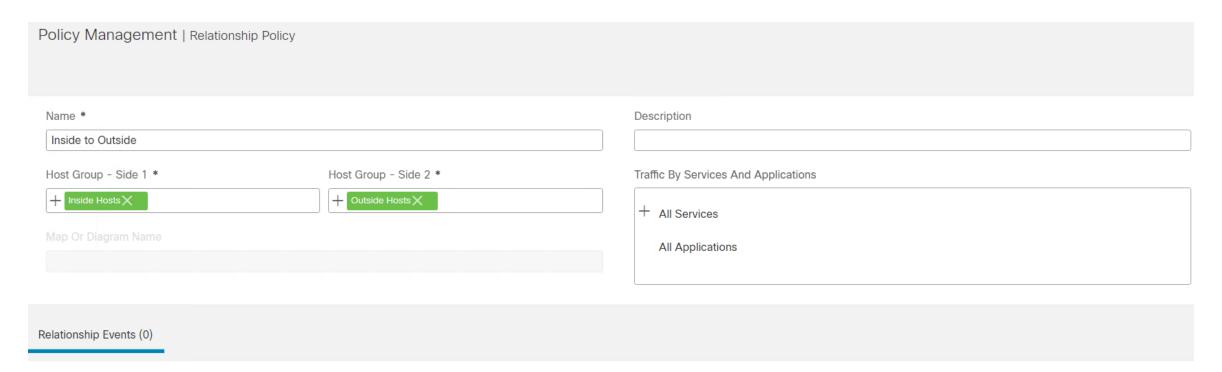


Custom Security Event Example

Detect hosts on the network bypassing proxy servers and connecting directly to the internet – policy violation.



Relationship Event Example



You must select at least one event before saving this policy. Click here to select events.

Relationship Event Example

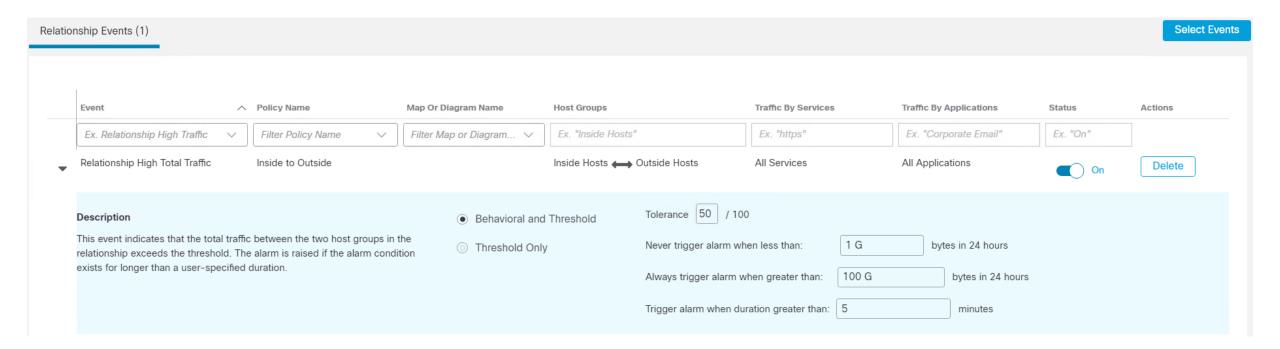
Traffic by Services and Applications	×				
Include All Except					
Services (0) Applications (0)					
Q Search					
Select All Deselect All					
3com AMP3					
☐ 3Com TSMUX					
☐ ACAP					
AccessBuilder					
ActiveX					
Adobe Connect					
Adobe EchoSign					
Adobe Services					
Adult Site					
_ AFS					
Akamai Cloud					
Alibaba					

Policy Management Relationsh	ip Policy	
Name * Inside to Outside		Description
Host Group - Side 1 * + Inside Kosts X Map Or Diagram Name	Host Group - Side 2 *	Traffic By Services And Applications + All Services All Applications
Relationship Events (0)		

You must select at least one event before saving this policy. Click here to select events.

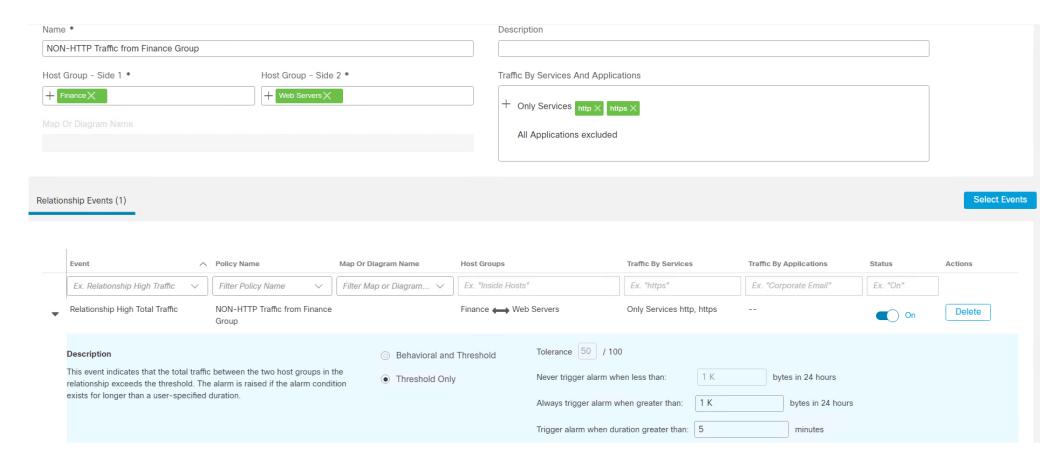
Events	×
Q Search	
Select All Deselect All	
Relationship High Total Traffic	
Relationship High Traffic	
Relationship Low Traffic	
Relationship Max Flows	
Relationship New Flows	
Relationship Round Trip Time	
 Relationship Server Response Time 	
Relationship TCP Retransmission Ratio	
Relationship SYN Flood	
Relationship UDP Flood	
Relationship ICMP Flood	

Relationship Event Example

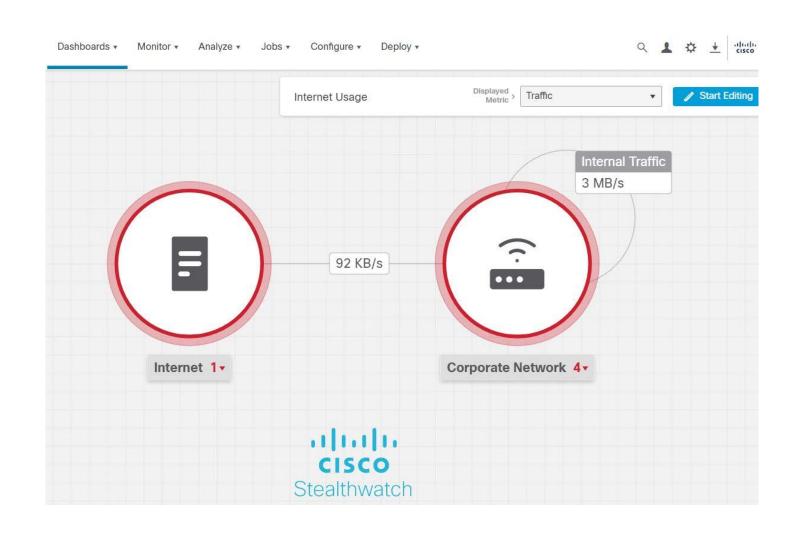


Relationship Event Example

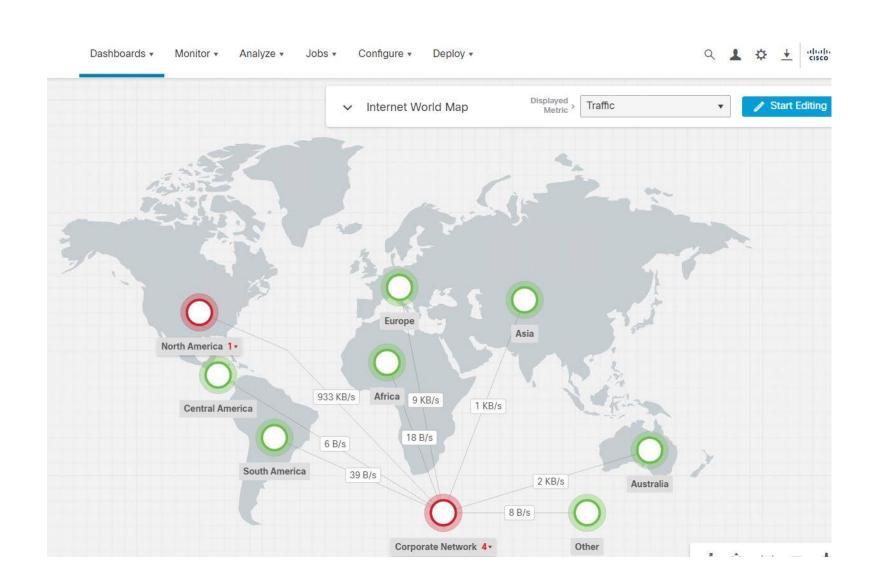
A company's security policy dictates that only HTTP and HTTPS traffic is allowed between the finance users and the web servers. A High Total Traffic Relationship Policy is configured with an exception for HTTP and HTTPS traffic that will alarm when there is non-HTTP or non-HTTPS traffic between the finance Group and the Web Server Host Group. The threshold is set for 1 K in one minute to catch all traffic that is not compliant.



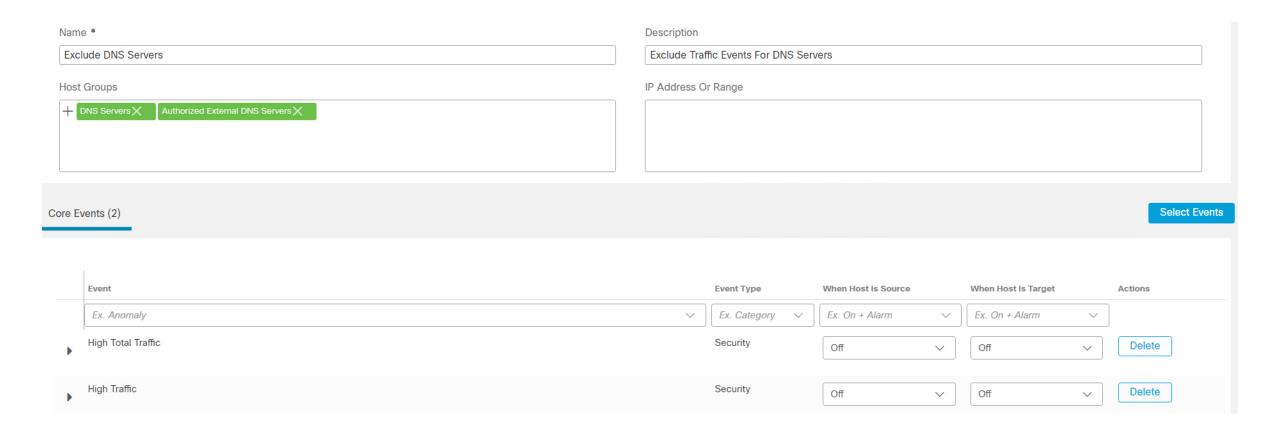
Relationship Event with Network Diagram



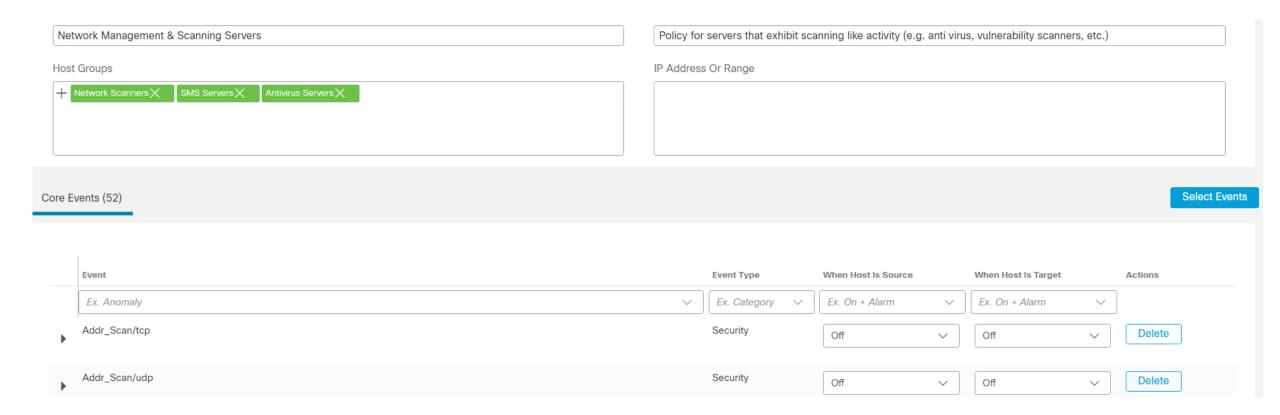
Relationship Event with Network Diagram



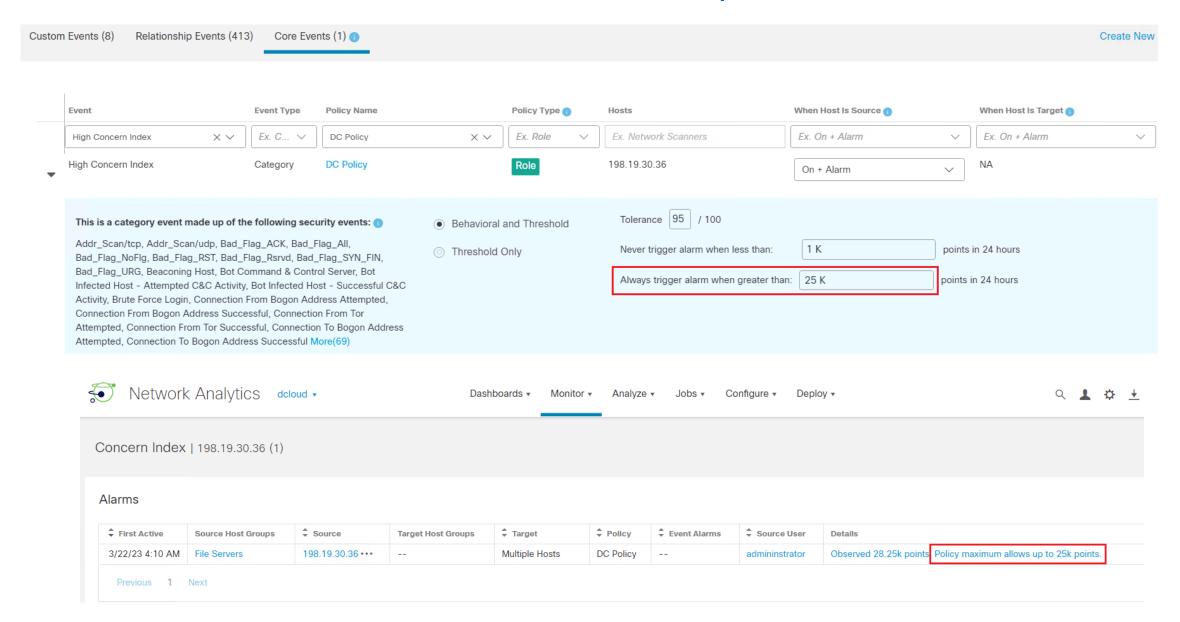
Core Event Example



Core Event Example



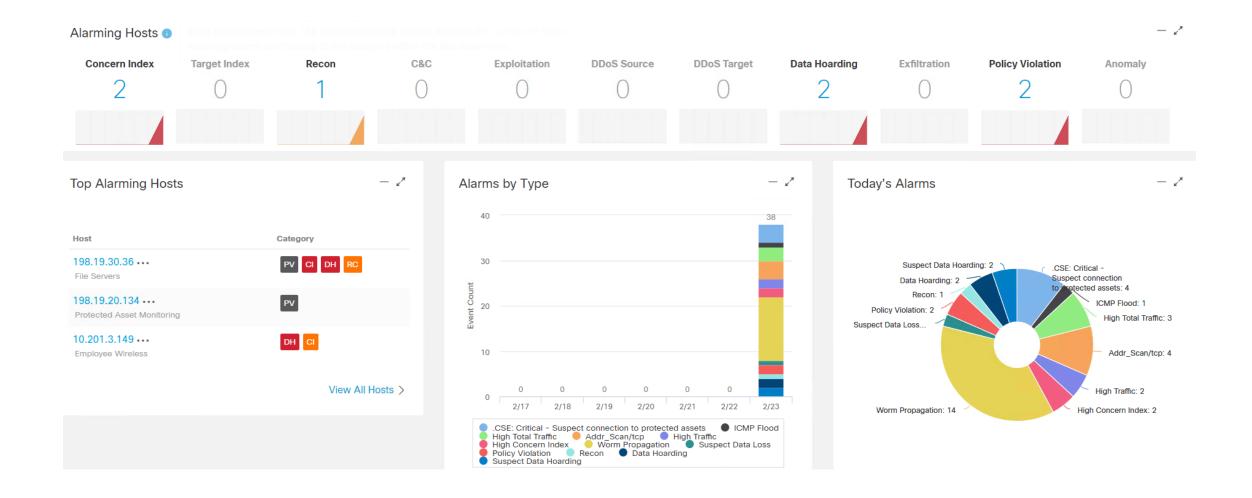
Core Event Example



Events and Alarms best practices

- 1. Create custom security events
- 2. Create Network Diagrams and Relationship Policies
- 3. Enable/Disable Alarms and thresholds by:
 - 1. Type select the types of alarms you want
 - 2. Role leverage role policies and alarm types
 - 3. Host Some hosts are more valuable than others

Cisco SNA Dashboard

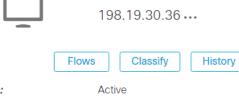


Cisco SNA Traffic by Host

Alarm Categories



Host Summary



Host IP

Status:

Hostname: wkst1.dcloud.local

File Servers Host Groups:

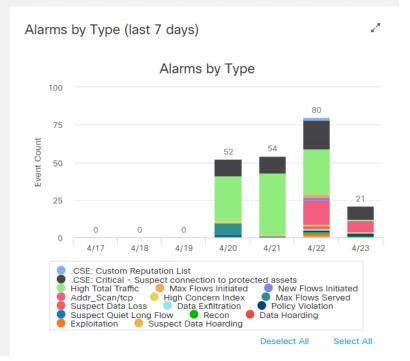
Location: Unknown

First Seen: 9/27/20 7:39 AM Last Seen: 4/23/23 5:21 AM Policies: DC Policy, Inside

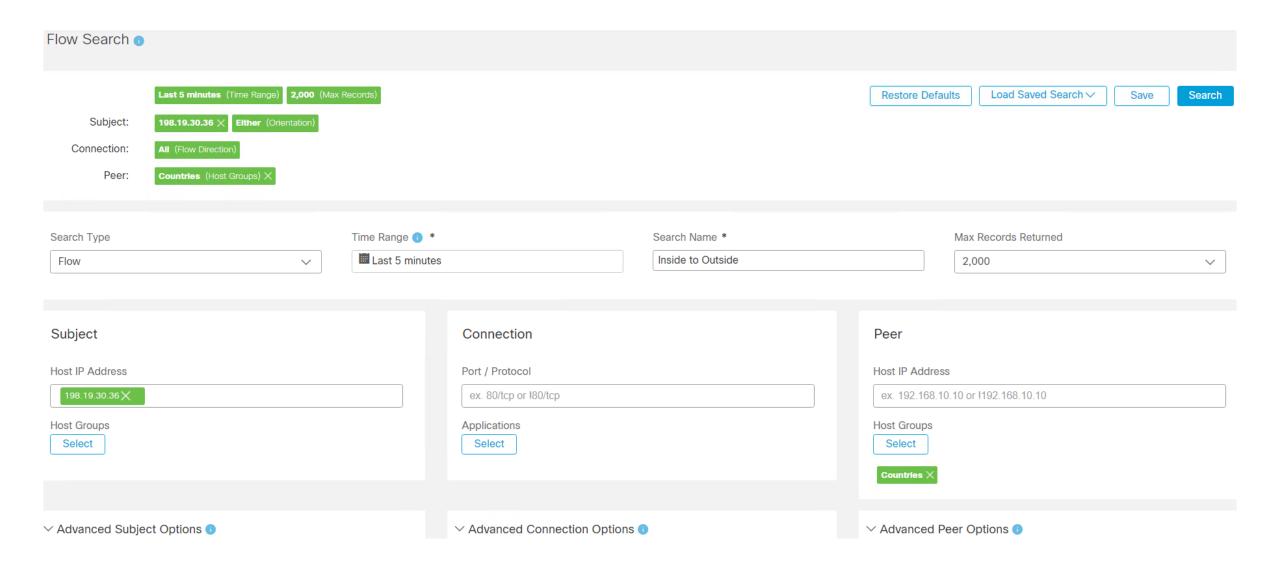
MAC Address:

ISE ANC Policy: -- Edit

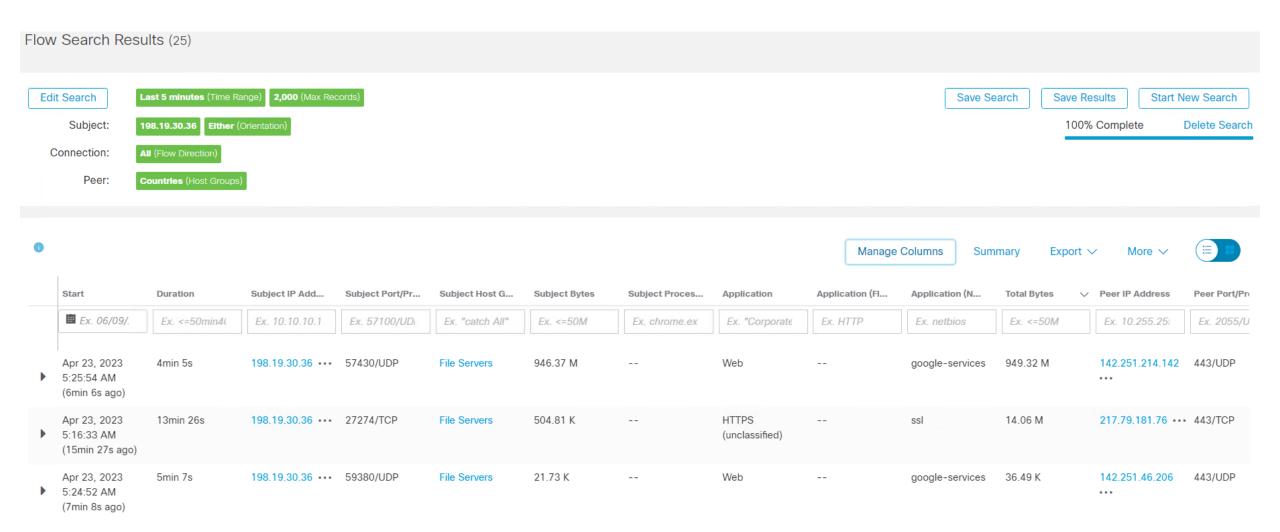




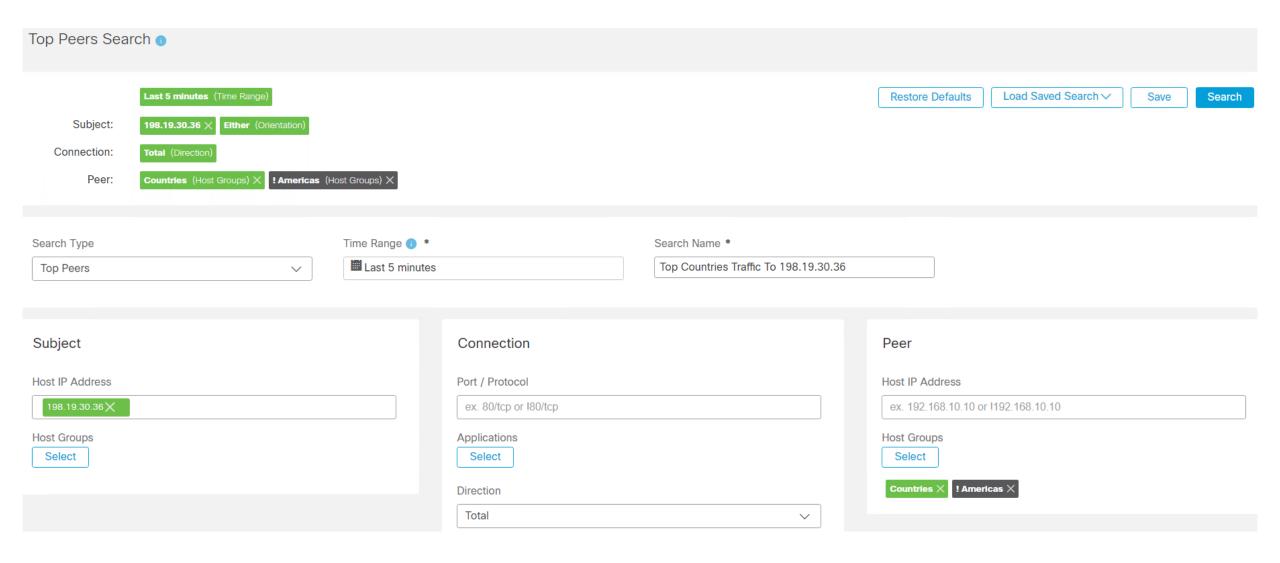
Cisco SNA Flow Search



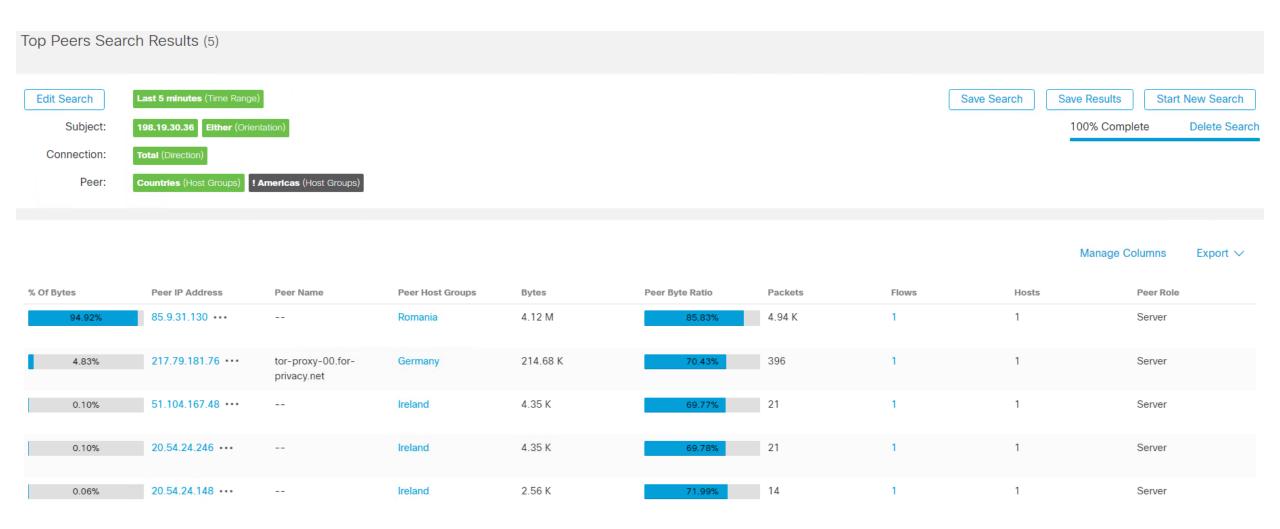
Cisco SNA Flow Search

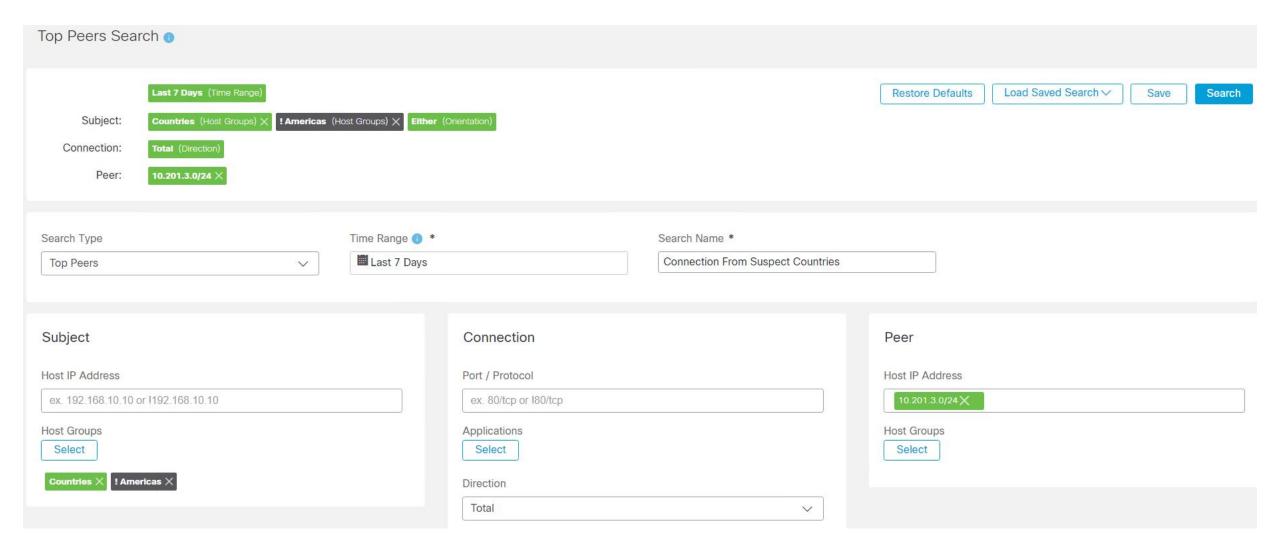


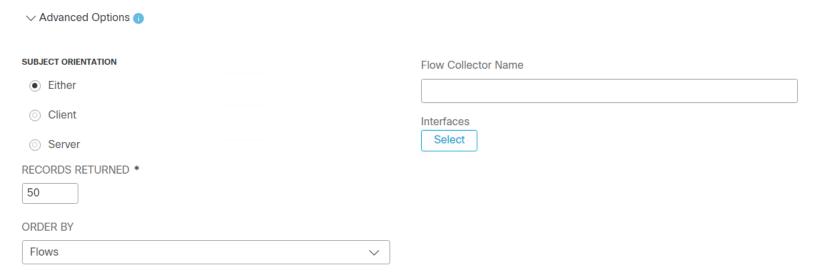
Cisco SNA Flow Search – Traffic by Countries

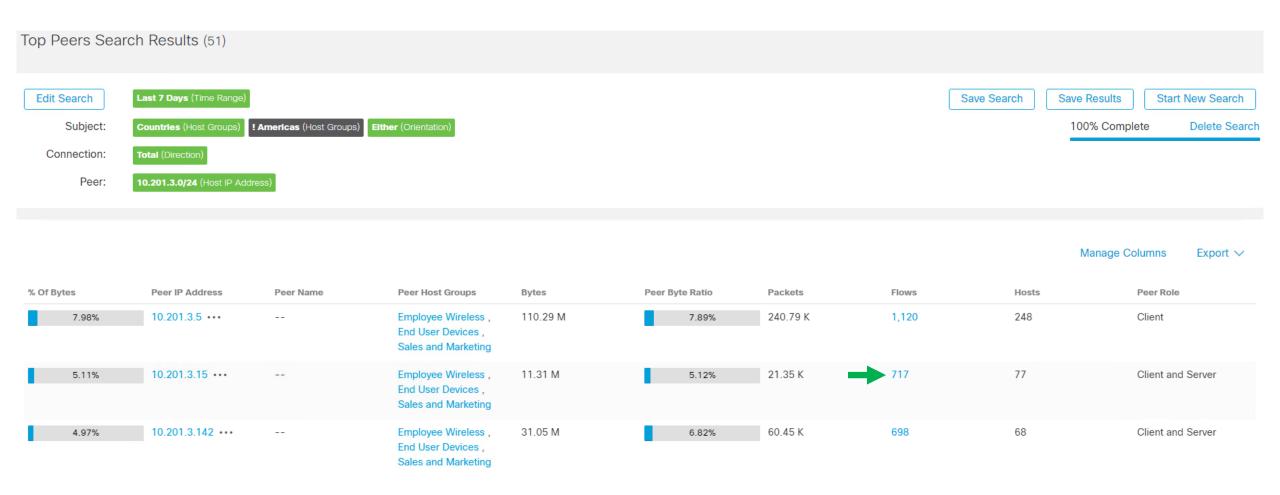


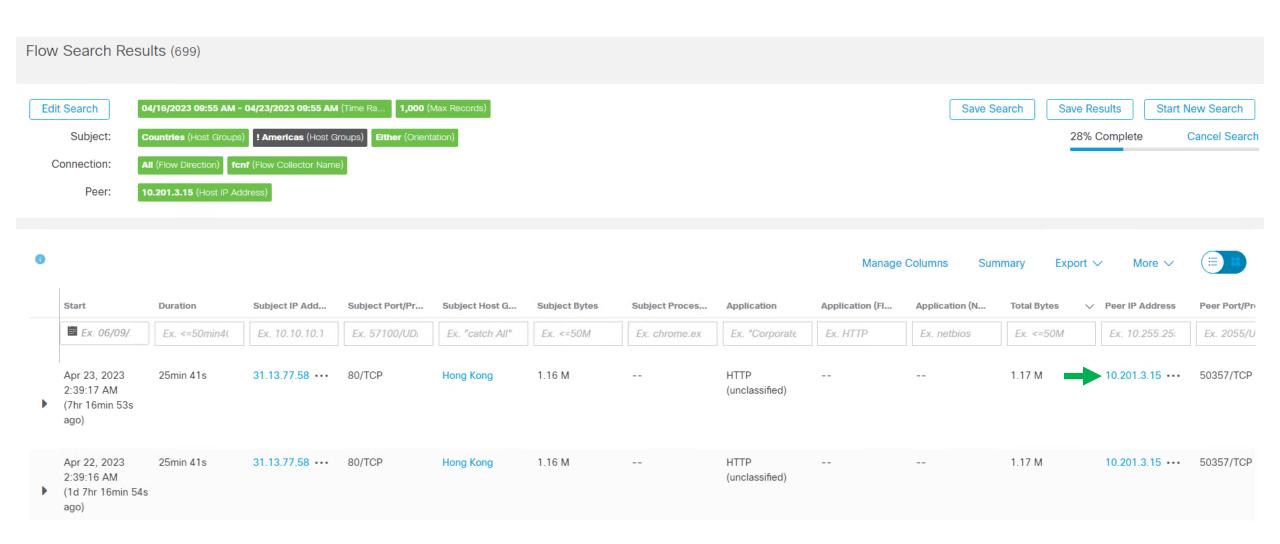
Cisco SNA Flow Search – Traffic by Countries

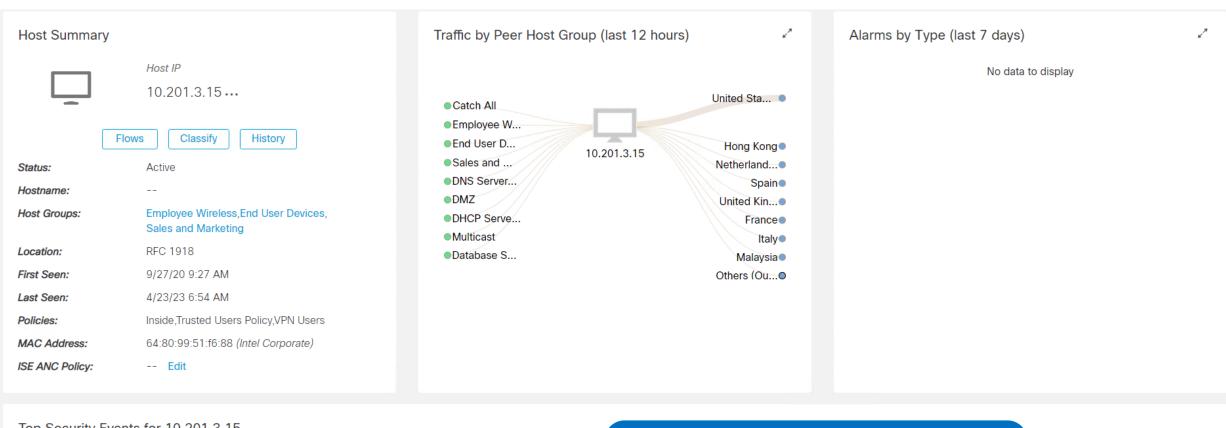












Top Security Events for 10.201.3.15 -

In the Top Security Events section, Identify if the Security Event "Suspect Quiet Long Flow" is there.

Encrypted Traffic Analysis (ETA)

Encrypted Traffic Analytics (ETA)

Visibility and malware detection with decryption





Is the payload within the TLS session malicious?

- End to end confidentiality
- Channel integrity during inspection
- Adapts with encryption standards



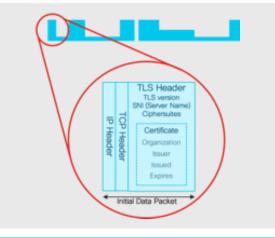
Cryptographic compliance

How much of my digital business uses strong encryption?

- Audit for TLS policy violations
- Passive detection of Ciphersuite vulnerabilities
- Continuous monitoring of network opacity

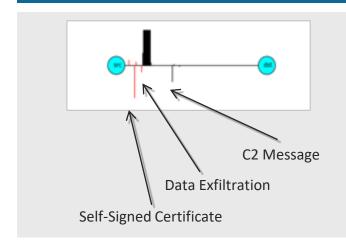
Detect malware in encrypted traffic

Initial data packet



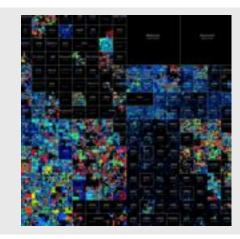
Make the most of the unencrypted fields

Sequence of packet lengths and times



Identify the content type through the size and timing of packets

Global Risk Map



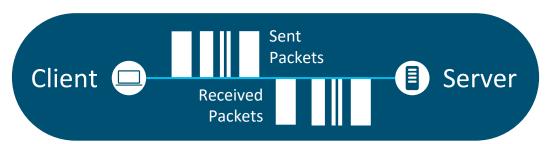
Know who's who of the Internet's dark side

Identifying malicious encrypted traffic

Google Search Page Download

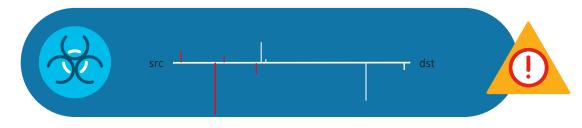


Model



Packet lengths, arrival times and durations tend to be inherently different for malware than benign traffic

Initiate Command and Control

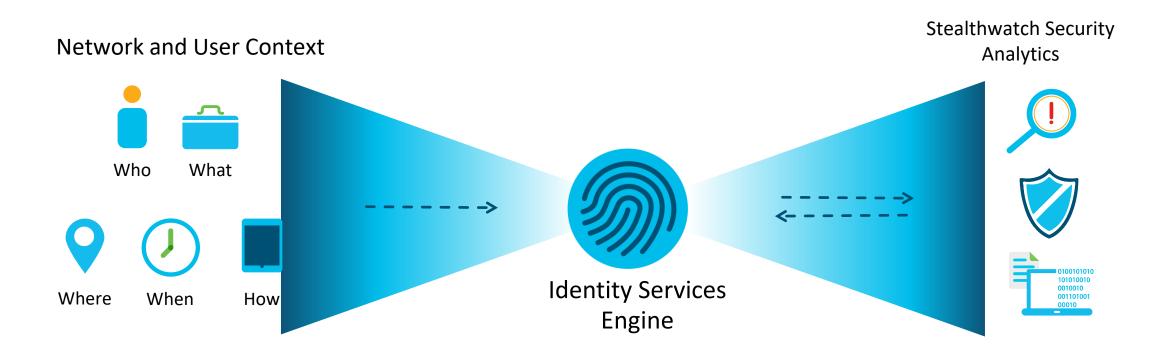


Exfiltration



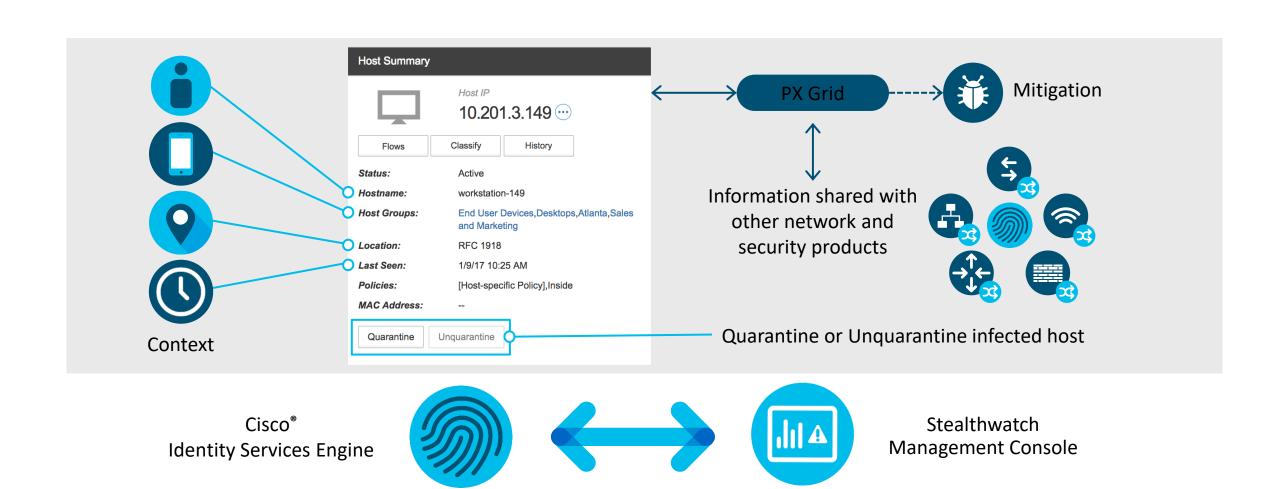
Integration with Cisco ISE

Integration with Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE)

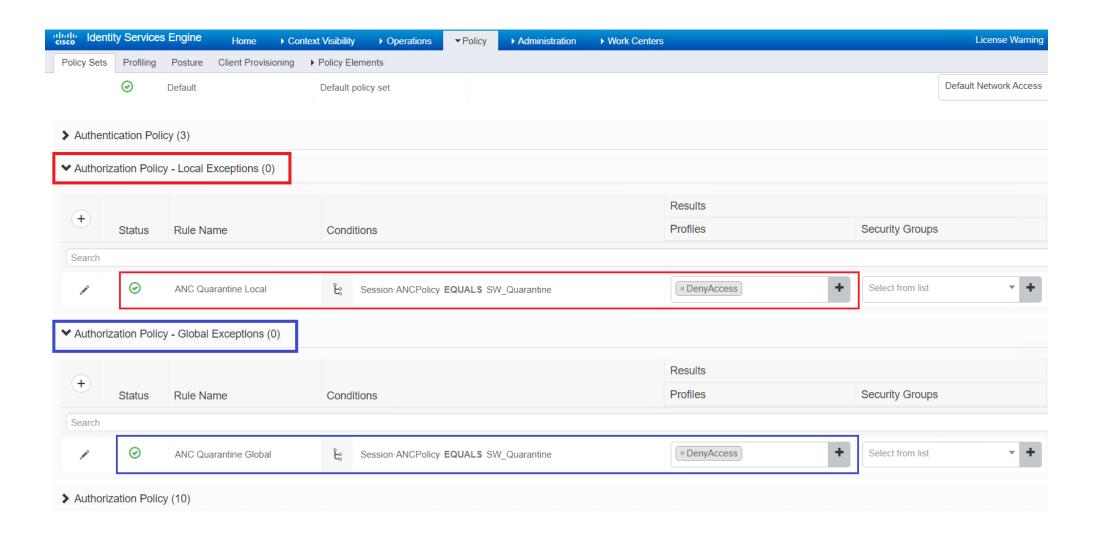


Send contextual data collected from users, devices, and network to Stealthwatch Enterprise for advanced insight

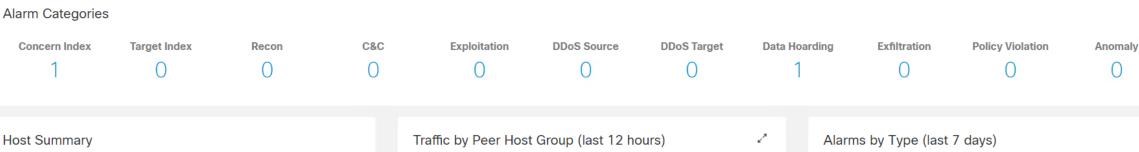
Rapid Threat Containment

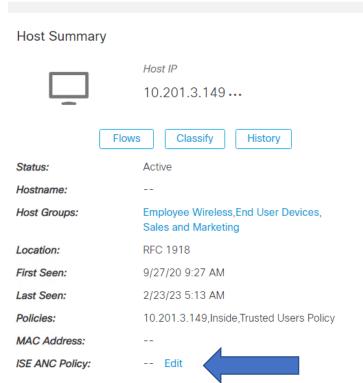


Adaptive Network Control ANC with Cisco ISE

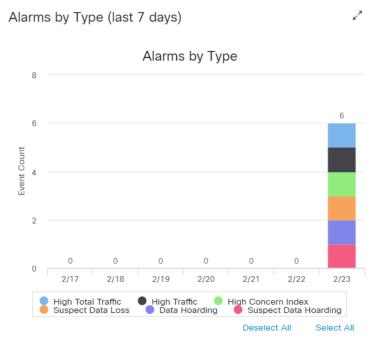


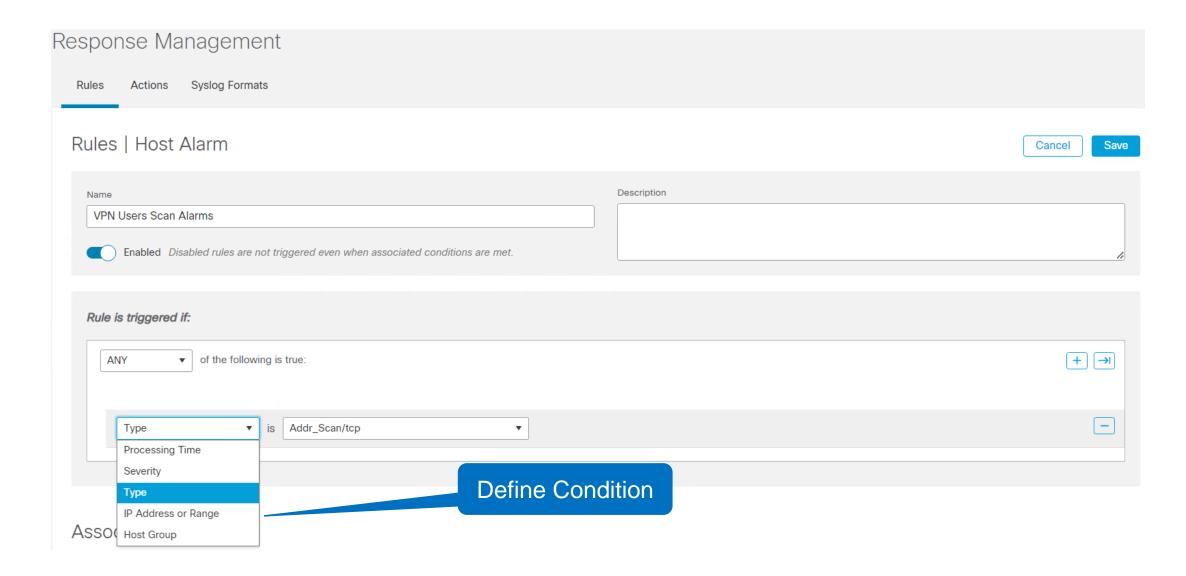
Adaptive Network Control ANC with Cisco ISE











Define Action

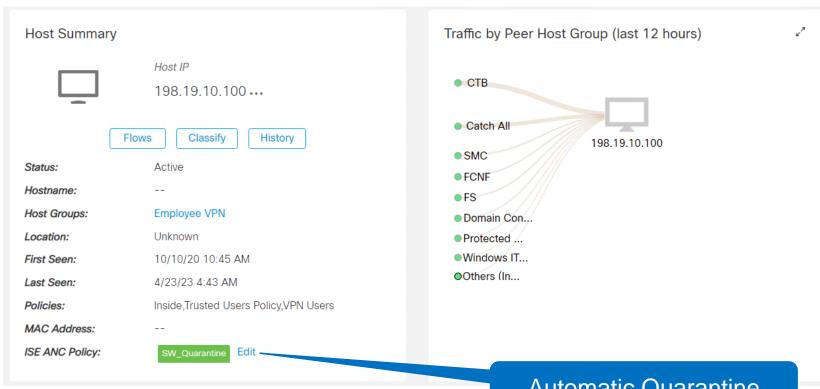
Associated Actions

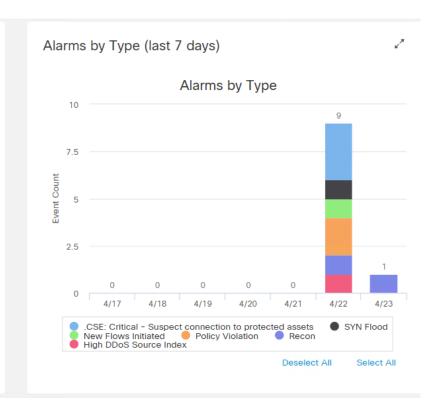
Execute the following actions when the alarm becomes active:

Name ↑	Туре	Description	Used By Rules	Assigned
Auto Mitigation - Source Host ISE ANC Policy		Automatically quarantine the offending source host leveraging an ISE ANC policy action.	3	
Send email	Email	Sends an email to the recipients designated in the To field on the Email Action page.	4	
Send to Syslog	Syslog Message	Sends a message to the syslog server designated in the Syslog Address field using the default Syslog Message format.	4	

ISE ANC Policy Assignments

	Host IP Address	ISE Cluster	MAC Address	Assignment Mode	Requested By	Time	Requested ANC Policy	Effective ANC Policy	Assign ANC Policy
	198.19.30.36	dCloud ISE	00:50:56:bb:9e:7b	Automatic	(Response Management)	4/23/2023 4:51 AM	SW_Quarantine	Retrieve 💍	•••
	198.19.10.100	dCloud ISE	00:50:56:bd:f8:2c	Automatic	(Response Management)	4/23/2023 4:44 AM	SW_Quarantine	Retrieve 💍	•••





Automatic Quarantine

Global Threat Alerts

Global Threat Alerts

Detects suspicious web traffic and/or Stealthwatch flow records and responds to attempts to establish a presence in your environment and to attacks that are already under way

Stealthwatch sends flow records to the Cognitive Intelligence cloud for analysis.

Two categories of data are sent to the Cognitive Intelligence data center.

1. Stealthwatch flow records, if any of the following conditions are met:

- Records for inside/outside host group traffic
- Records for specific internal host group traffic (Inside Hosts)
- Records for DNS requests, if the server port is 53
- Records for Encrypted Traffic Analytics, if you have an ETA enabled switch and router

2. Web log data.

Netflow IOS Commands

flow record STEALTHWATCH_FLOW_RECORD description NetFlow record for SW match ipv4 tos match ipv4 source address match ipv4 destination address match transport destination-port match transport source-port match interface input match ipv4 protocol collect interface output collect counter bytes collect counter bytes collect timestamp sys-uptime first collect application name

flow monitor IPv4_NETFLOW exporter NETFLOW_TO_STEALTHWATCH cache timeout active 60 record STEALTHWATCH_FLOW_RECORD interface GigabitEthernet1
ip flow monitor IPv4_NETFLOW input
ip nbar protocol-discovery
!
interface GigabitEthernet1
ip flow monitor IPv4_NETFLOW input
ip nbar protocol-discovery

flow exporter NETFLOW_TO_STEALTHWATCH description Export NetFlow to SW destination 198.19.20.139 transport udp 2055

Useful Link

Security Analytics with Stealthwatch - Cisco Live BRKSEC-3014:

https://www.ciscolive.com/c/dam/r/ciscolive/emea/docs/2020/pdf/BRKSEC-3014.pdf

Visibility, Detection and Response with Cisco Secure Network Analytics - Cisco Live BRKSEC-3019:

https://www.ciscolive.com/c/dam/r/ciscolive/emea/docs/2023/pdf/BRKSEC-3019.pdf

Cisco Secure Network Analytics - Security Events and Alarm Categories 7.4.2:

https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/stealthwatch/management_console/securit_events_alarm_categories/7_4_2_Security_Events_and_Alarm_Categories_DV_2_1.pdf

Cisco Secure Network Analytics Desktop Client User Guide 7.4:

https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/stealthwatch/management_console/smc_users_guide/7_4_Deskto p_Client_User_Guide_DV_2_0.pdf

Cisco Secure Network Analytics Global Threat Alerts Configuration Guide 7.4.2:

https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/stealthwatch/cta/configuration/SNA_7_4_2_Global_Threat_Alerts_Guide_DV_1_0.pdf

Useful Link

Cisco NetFlow Configuration:

https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/stealthwatch/netflow/Cisco_NetFlow_Configuration.pdf

Configuring and Troubleshooting NetFlow for Cisco Stealthwatch:

https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/stealthwatch/netflow/config-trouble-netflow-stealth.pdf

Cisco Secure Network Analytics ISE and ISE-PIC Configuration Guide 7.4.2:

https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/stealthwatch/ISE/7_4_2_ISE_Configuration_Guide_DV_1_0.pdf

Cisco Secure Network Analytics Use Cases:

https://community.cisco.com/t5/security-knowledge-base/welcome-to-secure-analytics-use-cases/tac-p/4418614#M7279

Encrypted Traffic Analytics:

https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/ios-xml/ios/sec_data_eta/configuration/xe-16-8/sec-data-encrypted-traffic-analytics-xe-16-8-book/sec-data-encrypted-traffic-analytics-xe-16-6-book_chapter_01.pdf

ENCRYPTED TRAFFIC ANALYSIS Use Cases & Security Challenges:

https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/encrypted-traffic-analysis