

Aventail ST2 SSL VPN Appliances

Summary: Aventail's solid SSL VPN appliances include network access control technology and they win our Editor's Choice Award for security and functionality.

Price: \$3,995

www.aventail.com

★★★★★

In the past year we've have the opportunity to review three of Aventail's VPN appliances. Each model was dependent on the amount of traffic that the company expected to receive from the use of the appliance. Whether it was from use by a small company or from an ISP service provider, the company's appliance could handle the entire user load. What has occurred since our last review of this company's products is the addition of NAC (Network Access Control) features that make this company's products stronger and they receive our Editor's Choice Award for security and functionality.

Network Access Control (NAC) is the ability of the VPN (Virtual Private Network) appliance to check up on the software of the remote computer or device's compliance with the company's requirement for software products that remove the threat of viruses, spyware or threats that could take advantage of vulnerabilities of the network. One of the benefits of the NAC technology is the ability for the appliance to check on the anti-virus, anti-spyware, operating system and installed service packs that are on a remote PC that is attempting to enter the network environment through the VPN.

The benefits of this VPN appliance include the company's proprietary Device Watermarking technology which

allows certificate-base identification of Windows and Windows Mobile devices and the inclusion of Quarantined Zones that take users to a certain web page where they can receive information on how to be in compliance with company software policies. Aventail's latest version, ST2, includes the new Connect

Aventail has been a leader in the VPN market offering solutions for small to enterprise-level organizations by providing a high level of security for a network environment against unauthorized entry and protection against possible threats. The ST2 technology is available with Aventail's EX-750 that



Tunnel Service Edition application that allows for application-to-application access for Windows 2003 Server and Window XP computer systems.

Companies are depending on their virtual private network appliance to be more considerate of the software that is loaded on the remote computer systems accessing the network environment. Aventail's ST2 technology guarantees that the computer systems that are accessing corporate resources will be unable to take advantage of the network's vulnerabilities through the compliance of company policies of software minimums. The user will get limited or no access to corporate resources until they have upgraded their system to these standards.

costs approximately \$3,995 up to the enterprise-sized EX-2500 SSL VPN appliance that has a starting price of \$22,995. Visit the company's website for more information at www.aventail.com.



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