



What Is the Value of the Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution?

The Cisco® AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution combines Cisco's industry-leading cloud- and premise-based web security and next-generation remote-access technology to deliver the most robust and secure enterprise mobility solution on the market today. The solution enables mobile users to easily and securely access the applications and information they need to do their jobs using their mobile device of choice, including laptops and handhelds such as Apple iPhone. At the same time, the solution allows organizations to easily manage the security risks of borderless networks as work use and personal use devices become blended.

The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution provides:

- Security policy enforcement that is context-aware, comprehensive and preemptive
- A connectivity experience that is intelligent, seamless and always-on
- Secure mobility across today's proliferating managed and unmanaged mobile devices

What Problems Does It Help Solve?

Today's Mobile Workers

Workers today are more mobile than ever, and are accessing information through laptops and other mobile devices such as smartphones. For telecommuters alone, Gartner Dataquest predicted that in 2009, 27.5 percent of workers are telecommuters, up from 25 percent in 2007¹. The number of mobile workers who are working from home or other locations continues to rise as well. Mobility enables workers to maintain their productivity no matter when, where, or how they are working.

The information accessed by mobile workers is not simply limited to business information. Workers from the "Millennial - Generation Y" group (those born after 1980) typically use the same mobile device to access both personal and professional information. Of the estimated 14 million Millennial telecommuters, 69 percent of them report that they use whatever device, software, or site they want, regardless of corporate policies. In order to continue to foster innovation, enable productivity, and meet the needs of the mobile workforce, companies must adapt to the changing trends in mobility.

¹Reference: <http://www.brighthub.com/office/home/articles/22829.aspx>

Secure Mobility

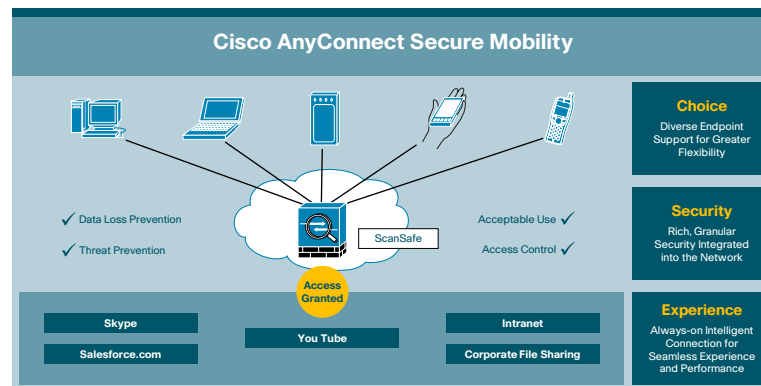
End users want the flexibility of choosing how, when, and where to access both personal and professional information to be productive without being inconvenienced by security checks. The IT support staff, on the other hand, wants to enable access for end users while ensuring that the corporate network and the access remains secure. Employees using their own devices to access the corporate network introduce an additional burden to an organization's IT department. Once business data makes its way onto an employee-owned device, it may be a challenge for the enterprise to control its spread or usage.

To support the increasing number of mobile workers, corporate security administrators must provide context-aware security and policy enforcement, regardless of the end user's location, what device they're using, and where the information they are accessing is located. Administrators must also be able to support a heterogeneous set of laptops and mobile devices to encourage choice for their clients: the end users. And finally, they must provide this security unobtrusively, to minimize end-user concerns.

The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution

The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution provides mobile employees on laptops or smartphones with an always-protected experience while enabling IT administrators to deliver comprehensive policy enforcement. The solution offers flexibility in endpoint access granular policy controls, and reliable, secure connectivity (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution





Secure, persistent connectivity

Cisco AnyConnect Version 3.0, with Cisco ASA 5500 Series Adaptive Security Appliances at the headend, provides the remote-access connectivity portion of Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility.

Both the user and device must be authenticated and validated prior to being provided access to the network. Once the user is authenticated, the Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution can decide which applications and resources the user should have access to. Ideally, this authentication would be transparent to the user. For devices to be authenticated, they must comply with corporate policies and have up-to-date security in place.

The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution enables the connection to simply work and be reliably connected without the user needing to juggle where and how to best connect and persist, even when roaming between networks. As mobile workers roam to different locations, the always-on intelligent VPN in the AnyConnect Secure Mobility client automatically selects the most optimal network access point and adapts its tunneling protocol to the most efficient method.

Persistent security and policy enforcement

Enterprises have a choice to deploy a premises-based Cisco IronPort® S-Series Web Security Appliance or use the Cisco ScanSafe SaaS Web Security Cloud Services offering to keep malware off their corporate networks and control and secure their employees' web usage. The extensibility of the Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client supports both cloud and premises-based web security offerings, providing flexibility to ensure a safe and productive Internet environment. Context-aware security policy, including enforcing acceptable use and protection from malware, is available for all users.

What Are the Benefits of Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility?

Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility provides benefits to three types of stakeholders in the mobile network.

- For end users, Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility provides:
 - A connectivity experience that is intelligent, seamless and always-on
 - Secure mobility across today's proliferating managed and unmanaged mobile devices
- For security administrators, Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility provides:
 - Security policy enforcement that is context-aware, comprehensive and preemptive

- Reduced operating costs with a simplified IT operations for all end users
- Improved customer satisfaction by providing flexibility and choice for end users
- For company executives, Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility provides:
 - A boost in productivity by enabling mobile access from any device without compromising security
 - The ability to give end users a choice of how, when, and where to access their information

Why Cisco?

Mobility changes everything. It changes how and where people work—and it creates new IT security challenges. The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution provides comprehensive and secure remote access. Mobile users can enjoy persistent connectivity back to their corporations, and IT administrators can enable smart, context-aware security policies to protect corporate assets.